BATMAN
DEC.-JAN.
NO. 74
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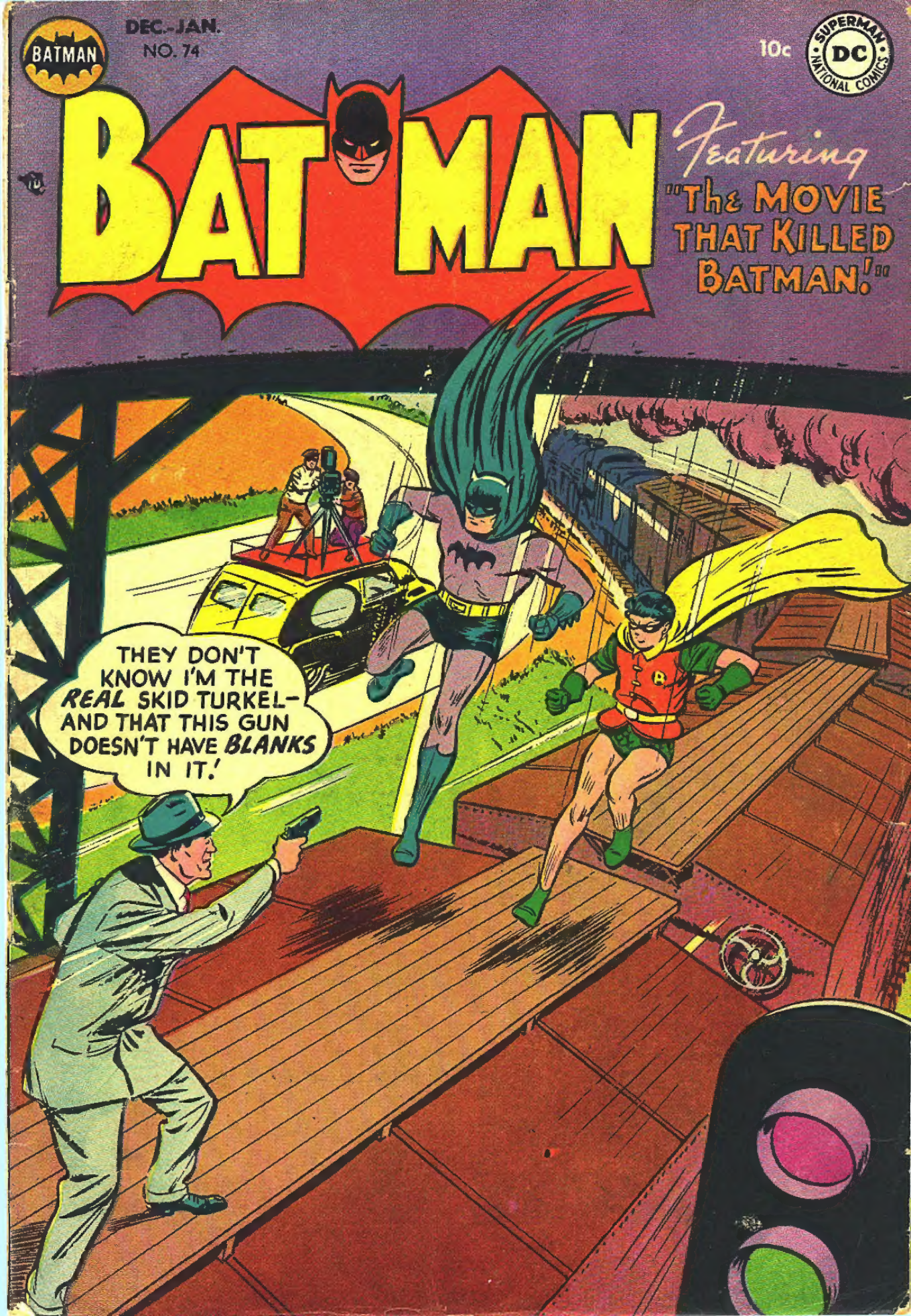
BATMAN

Featuring "The MOVIE THAT KILLED BATMAN!"



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BOY WHAT FUN!
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- REAL COWBOY OUTFIT!

HEY KIDS — HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO BECOME A MASTER VENTRILOQUIST—IN A JIFFY! IMAGINE — YOU CAN MAKE HAPPY THE COWBOY ACTUALLY TALK! (IN YOUR OWN VOICE, OF COURSE) PULL THE STRING IN THE BACK OF HIS HEAD —WATCH HIS LIPS MOVE— HEAR YOUR OWN WORDS COMING RIGHT OUT OF HAPPY'S MOUTH! SEE HOW REAL HE LOOKS—RIGGED UP IN A COWBOY HAT, WASHABLE PLAID SHIRT AND WESTERN PANTS. SHOW OFF YOUR SKILL AT PARTIES —AT SCHOOL!

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- REMOVABLE LAYETTE!

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BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
BAW! THE JOKER STOLE MY MUD-PIES, BATMAN!
MUD-PIES! HUNDREDS OF MUD-PIES! AND THEY'RE ALL MINE! HA-HA. HA-HA!
IS IT POSSIBLE? HAS THE JOKER REALLY LOST HIS MIND? WHAT OTHER REASON CAN THERE POSSIBLY BE WHEN HE RISKS HIS LIFE TO STEAL COMPLETELY VALUELESS OBJECTS? YOU WILL BE JUST AS AMAZED AND CONFUSED AS BATMAN AND ROBIN, AS YOU TRY TO UNRAVEL THE MYSTERY BEHIND THE EXPLOITS OF...
THE CRAZY CRIME CLOWN!
BOB KANE
1

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Printed in U.S.A.

ONE FOGGY NIGHT, AS WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON, ARRIVE WITH OTHER SOCIALITES AT THE GOTHAM CITY OPERA HOUSE...

WOW! LOOK AT THAT COUPLE, BRUCE.. THOSE CRAZY CLOTHES THEY'RE WEARING! WHO ARE THEY?

THE BROMLEYS, DICK-- LAST OF AN OLD FAMILY THAT WENT PENNILESS YEARS AGO! THEY INSIST ON KEEPING UP A FRONT, THOUGH EVERYONE KNOWS THAT EVEN MRS. BROMLEY'S JEWELS ARE IMITATIONS!

OPERA

SUDDENLY, FROM OUT OF THE THICK MIST...

EEEK!

HA, HA, HA!

MRS. BROMLEY! SOMEONE GRABBED HER, THEN DISAPPEARED INTO THE FOG! AND HE LOOKED LIKE--- LIKE---

LIKE THE *JOKER*! I'D KNOW THAT MOCKING LAUGHTER ANYWHERE! COME ON, DICK!

HA, HA, HA! HA, HA!

AND IN THE CONCEALMENT OF THE SWIRLING MIST, AN AMAZING TRANSFORMATION TAKES PLACE...

BUT WHAT WOULD THE *JOKER* WANT WITH MRS. BROMLEY?

WE'LL FIND OUT WHEN WE CATCH HIM--AS *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN*, OF COURSE! DON'T USE YOUR FLASHLIGHT... WE'LL FOLLOW THE SOUNDS OF HIS FOOTSTEPS AND TRY TO TAKE HIM BY SURPRISE!

BUT JUST THEN...

CLUNK

OOPS! BUMPED INTO SOMETHING-- BUT I CAN'T TELL WHAT IT IS!

MAY AS WELL USE MY FLASHLIGHT NOW, *BATMAN*! THE *JOKER* MUST'VE HEARD THAT NOISE ANYHOW!

AND AS THE AMBER BEAM PIERCES THE FOG...

ULP! W-WE'RE TWINS!

WHY--IT'S A *MIRROR*... A HEAVY GLASS MIRROR THE *JOKER* MUST'VE SET UP HERE TO CONFUSE ANYONE WHO CHASED HIM! COME ON-- LET'S CIRCLE AROUND IT!

A MOMENT LATER...

LOOK! IT'S MRS. BROMLEY... BUT NO SIGN OF THE *JOKER*!

GUESS IT'S HOPELESS TRYING TO CATCH HIM IN THIS FOG! BESIDES-- WE'VE GOT TO ATTEND TO MRS. BROMLEY! HOPE SHE'S NOT HURT!

SHE'S ALL RIGHT... JUST FAINTED! BUT LOOK, ROBIN... SHE'S BEEN ROBBED OF ALL HER JEWELS! I GUESS THE JOKER DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE PHONY-- ONLY IMITATIONS!
GUESS THE LAUGH IS ON THE JOKER THIS TIME!

BUT NOT THE LAST LAUGH! FOR ON THE VERY NEXT NIGHT, OUTSIDE THE GOTHAM CITY SAVING'S BANK...
THE JOKER HIMSELF -- TRYING TO BUST INTO THAT BANK! HERE'S MY CHANCE TO NAB HIM SINGLE-HANDED AND EARN ME A PROMOTION!
Gotham City SAVINGS BANK
SAVE REGULARLY AND SEE YOUR PENNIES GROW INTO A CASTLE OF GOLD!

BUT AS THE PATROLMAN REACHES FOR HIS GUN...
WONDERFUL STUFF, THESE QUICK-DRYING PLASTICS! PRESTO -- AND I'VE GOT A COP IN A COCOON! HA-HA-HA! WHEN YOU COME OUT, YOU'LL BE A BUTTERFLY... HA-HA... AND I'LL HAVE A CASTLE OF GOLD!
HUH? THAT STICKY STUFF'S JAMMED MY GUN!

LATER, AT POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...
I'D BE A BUTTERFLY, HE SAID... AND WELL I MIGHT'VE BEEN, BECAUSE I THOUGHT I WAS LOSING MY MIND! HE DIDN'T ROB THE BANK! ALL HE TOOK WERE THOSE USELESS CHIPS OF WOOD, PAINTED TO LOOK LIKE GOLD COINS!

STRANGE... THE JOKER MUST'VE KNOWN THOSE COINS WEREN'T REAL, BATMAN!

THEN WHAT OF THOSE FAKE BROMLEY JEWELS HE STOLE LAST NIGHT? COULD HE HAVE KNOWN THEY WERE FAKES, TOO?
ALL I CAN SAY IS, IT LOOKS LIKE THE START OF A MAD JOKER SCHEME, COMMISSIONER-- BUT I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT! WE'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS!

AFTERWARD, IN THE SECRET BAT-CAVE...
IT'S NO USE! I'VE CHECKED ALL OUR TROPHIES OF OLD JOKER CRIMES, AND THERE'S NOTHING TO SUGGEST WHY HE'D BE STEALING WORTHLESS IMITATION VALUABLES!
HOPE WE FIND THE ANSWER SOON!
JOKER TRICKS TO ESCAPE LAW

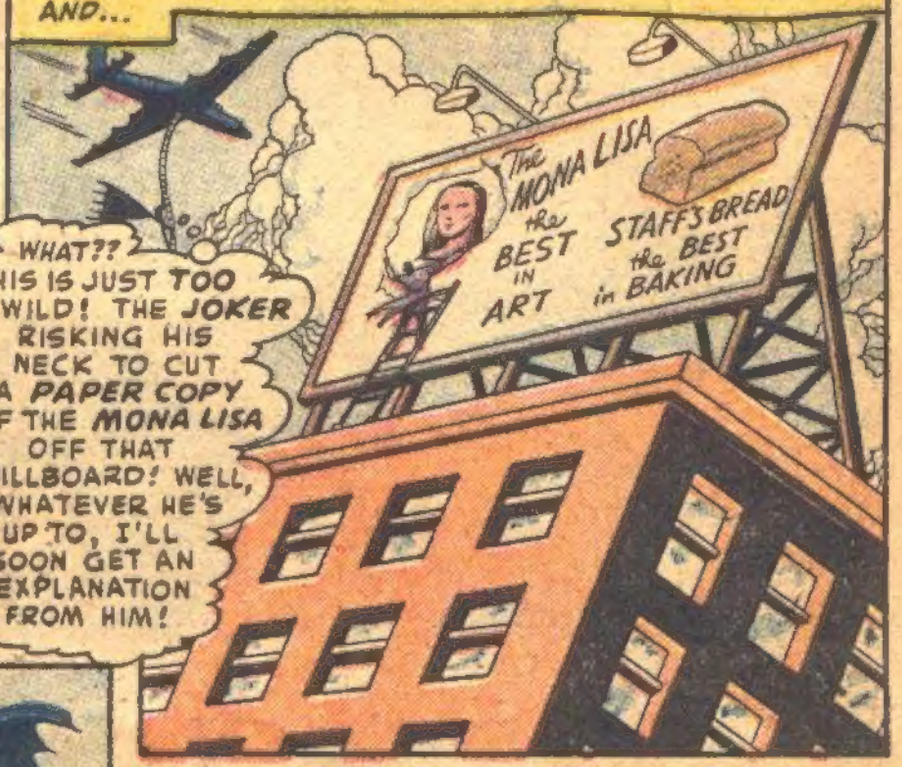
SO NEXT DAY, AS THE BAT-PLANE HOVERS IN A WATCHFUL CIRCUIT OVER GOTHAM CITY...

WE'VE BEEN PATROLLING ALL DAY, BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF TROUBLE ANYWHERE! MAYBE THE JOKER WAS JUST PULLING A COUPLE OF PRANKS JUST TO CONFUSE US -- WITHOUT ANY OTHER MOTIVE!

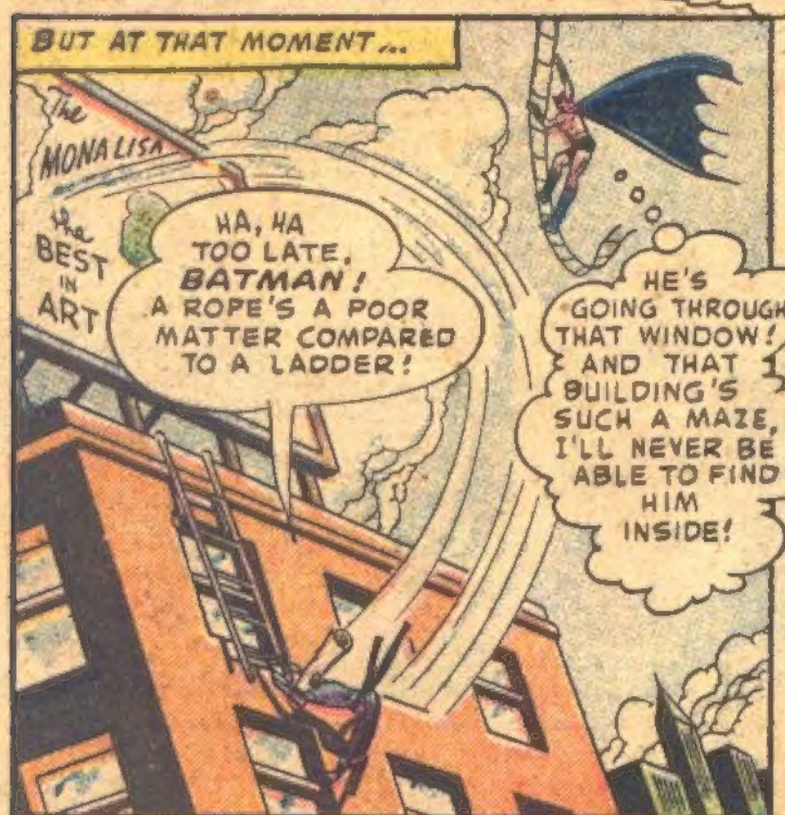
WAIT! DOWN THERE -- ON THAT BIG BILLBOARD! IT'S THE JOKER!

WHAT?? THIS IS JUST TOO WILD! THE JOKER RISKING HIS NECK TO CUT A PAPER COPY OF THE MONA LISA OFF THAT BILLBOARD! WELL, WHATEVER HE'S UP TO, I'LL SOON GET AN EXPLANATION FROM HIM!

IMMEDIATELY, A ROPE LADDER IS RELEASED, AND...



BUT AT THAT MOMENT...


The MONA LISA
the BEST IN ART
HA, HA TOO LATE, BATMAN! A ROPE'S A POOR MATTER COMPARED TO A LADDER!
HE'S GOING THROUGH THAT WINDOW! AND THAT BUILDING'S SUCH A MAZE, I'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIND HIM INSIDE!

LATER, BACK IN THE BAT-CAVE...

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN HE'D HAVE SOME TRICK GETAWAY PREPARED! AND IF WE DON'T GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THE JOKER'S CRAZY CRIMES SOON -- I'LL GO CRAZY!

BATMAN -- IT'S OUR BUTLER -- ALFRED -- PHONING FROM THE HOUSE! HE JUST HEARD A NEWS BROADCAST THAT THE JOKER'S BEEN CAUGHT!

THE STARTLING NEWS SENDS THE ASTONISHED PAIR TO COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE, WHERE THEY LEARN...

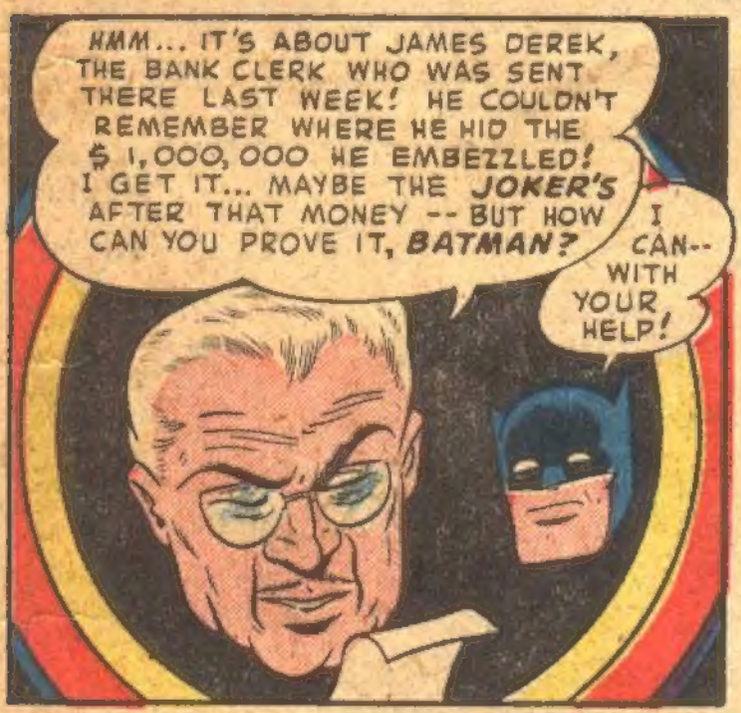
HE JUST WALKED INTO POLICE HEADQUARTERS WITH THOSE FAKE JEWELS, FAKE GOLD COINS AND THAT FAKE MONA LISA -- AND ASKED TO DEPOSIT THE STUFF, AS IF HE WERE IN A BANK! NATURALLY, THEY GRABBED HIM!

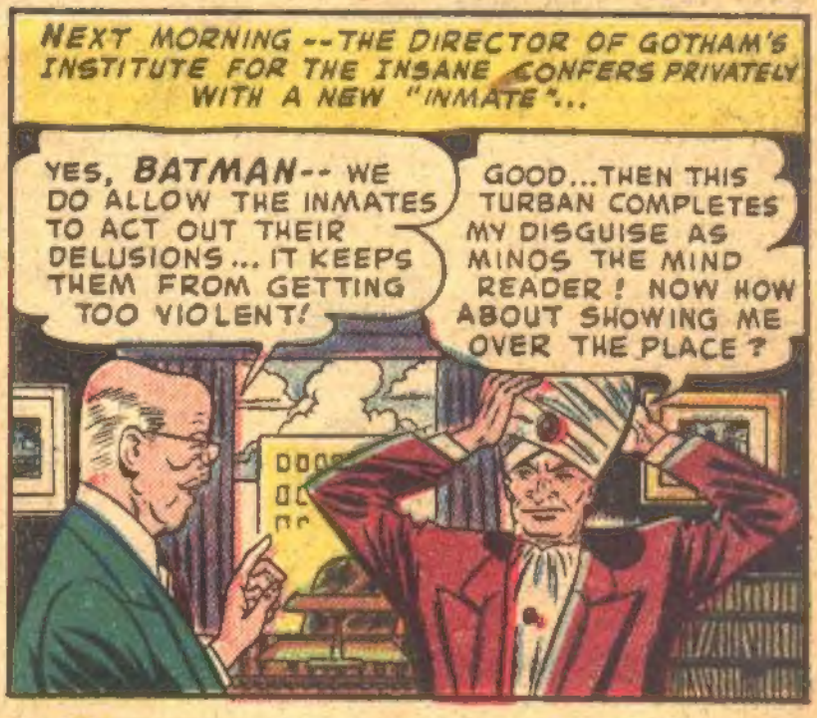
HE SOUNDS MADDER THAN EVER! BUT -- WE'LL LEARN MORE AT THE TRIAL TOMORROW!

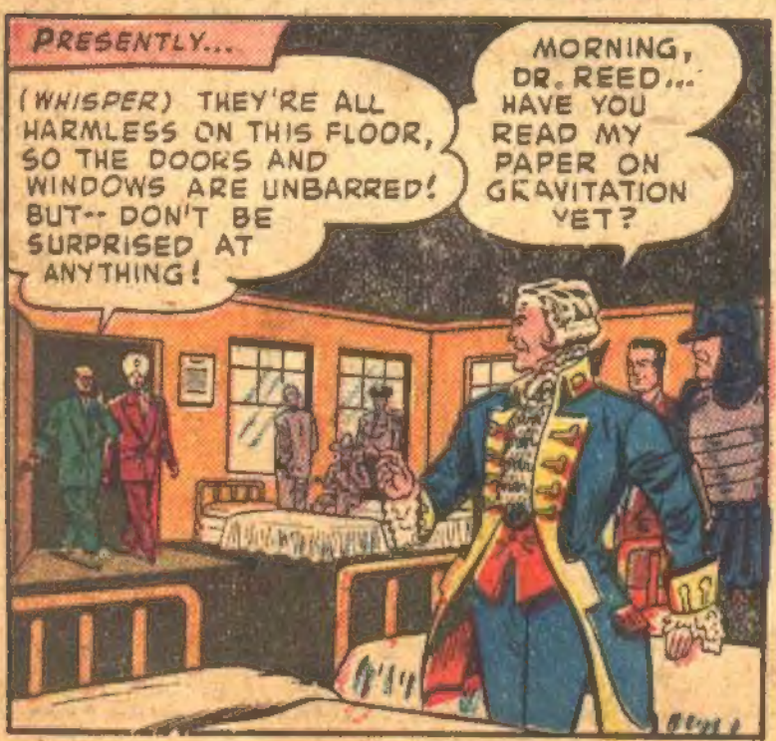
NEXT MORNING, IN A GOTHAM COURTROOM, AS A PSYCHIATRIST REPORTS ON HIS EXAMINATION OF THE JOKER...

THE PRISONER SUFFERS FROM HEBOPHRENIC SCHIZOPHRENIA... IN NON-MEDICAL LANGUAGE, AN INSANITY MARKED BY EXTREMELY FOOLISH BEHAVIOR! EVEN HIS TWISTED SENSE OF HUMOR WAS MERELY A SYMPTOM OF THIS INSANITY THAT'S NOW OVERCOME HIM!

THEN I'VE NO CHOICE BUT TO SENTENCE THE JOKER TO THE INSANE ASYLUM!
NO WONDER WE COULDN'T FIGURE OUT THE JOKER'S MOTIVE... HIS CRIMES SEEMED CRAZY BECAUSE HE WAS CRAZY!
MAYBE SO... BUT JUST THE SAME, COMMISSIONER, YOU WAIT FOR ME IN YOUR OFFICE WHILE I DO SOME SPECIAL CHECKING!
SO SEVERAL HOURS LATER...
SINCE THE JOKER'S TOO CLEVER A CRIMINAL TO TAKE ANYTHING FOR GRANTED, I CHECKED THROUGH THE CITY'S NEWS FILES AND FOUND THIS CLIPPING -- WHICH COULD GIVE HIM AN EXCELLENT REASON FOR WANTING TO BE SENT TO THAT INSTITUTION!
LET ME SEE!


HMM... IT'S ABOUT JAMES DEREK, THE BANK CLERK WHO WAS SENT THERE LAST WEEK! HE COULDN'T REMEMBER WHERE HE HID THE $1,000,000 HE EMBEZZLED! I GET IT... MAYBE THE JOKER'S AFTER THAT MONEY -- BUT HOW CAN YOU PROVE IT, BATMAN?
I CAN-- WITH YOUR HELP!


NEXT MORNING -- THE DIRECTOR OF GOTHAM'S INSTITUTE FOR THE INSANE CONFERS PRIVATELY WITH A NEW "INMATE"...
YES, BATMAN-- WE DO ALLOW THE INMATES TO ACT OUT THEIR DELUSIONS... IT KEEPS THEM FROM GETTING TOO VIOLENT!
GOOD...THEN THIS TURBAN COMPLETES MY DISGUISE AS MINOS THE MIND READER! NOW HOW ABOUT SHOWING ME OVER THE PLACE?


PRESENTLY...
(WHISPER) THEY'RE ALL HARMLESS ON THIS FLOOR, SO THE DOORS AND WINDOWS ARE UNBARRED! BUT-- DON'T BE SURPRISED AT ANYTHING!
MORNING, DR. REED... HAVE YOU READ MY PAPER ON GRAVITATION YET?

ER--YES! MINOS-- MEET SIR ISAAC NEWTON, DISCOVERER OF GRAVITATION!
AND I'M CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS-- DISCOVERER OF AMERICA!
AND I'M BATMAN!

BATMAN?
YES--BUT DON'T BREATHE IT TO A SOUL... MUST KEEP MY IDENTITY SECRET, YOU KNOW! SEE?... MY BATMAN COSTUME IS HIDDEN HERE--EVER READY FOR A CALL TO ACTION... THOUGH I MUST ADMIT THINGS HAVE BEEN QUIET LATELY!
LATER, EN ROUTE TO THE NEXT WARD...
NOW THE FLOOR ABOVE HOUSES OUR MORE DANGEROUS CASES--INCLUDING THE JOKER AND DEREK, THE BANK CLERK! THAT'S WHERE I'M HAVING THE GUARD PUT YOU NOW! WATCH YOURSELF AND--GOOD LUCK!
THANKS, DR. REED!
AND AS SOON AS THE DISGUISED BATMAN IS LOCKED IN THE UPPER WARD...
MINOS THE MIND READER, EH? WELL, I'M FRANZ THE STRANGLER... ONCE CHAMPION WRESTLER! CAN YOU READ WHAT'S ON MY MIND?
OH, OH... OBVIOUSLY THE WARD BULLY--AND HE'S TAKEN A DISLIKE TO ME!
ER...YES--AS LEADER OF THIS WARD, YOU'RE TESTING ME OUT!
YOU WERE RIGHT... AND THAT I DON'T LIKE! SO--I'M GOING TO GET RID OF YOU!
DON'T, FRANZ! HE'S HARMLESS! DON'T START ANYTHING OR THE GUARDS WILL PUT US ALL IN STRAIT-JACKETS!
HEEDLESS OF THE JOKER'S WARNING, THE BRUTE LEAPS, AND...
HA-HA! PRETTY NEAT FOOT-WORK FOR A MIND READER! BUT EVEN I COULD READ THAT SIMPLETON'S MIND--SO DON'T GET SWELL-HEADED, MINOS!
THEY ALL LAUGH AT MINOS AND SAY I'M CRAZY! YOU, TOO--YOU CLOWN! BUT I CAN READ YOUR MIND AS EASILY AS THE REST
MY MIND? HA, HA.. THAT'S A GOOD ONE! LET ME SEE YOU TRY IT... HA, HA, HA!
NOW'S MY CHANCE TO BAIT HIM!
JUST AS I READ IN FRANZ' MIND WHERE HIS WEAKNESS WAS, I SEE THAT YOUR MIND IS ON THE MIND OF THIS MAN HERE--AND HIS FORGOTTEN SECRET!
YOU MEAN HIM? DEREK? SECRET? WHAT SECRET, MAY I ASK?
6

IN THIS MAN'S FORGOTTEN MEMORY, I SEE A MYSTERIOUS SOMETHING BURIED BENEATH AN OLD OAK TREE AT THE REAR OF HIS HOUSE!
WHAT? ARE YOU SURE? MINOS -- ARE YOU ABSOLUTELY SURE? BUT -- IT MUST BE! WHAT A GIFT! NO WONDER THEY CALLED YOU CRAZY!
PSST -- I'M BREAKING OUT TONIGHT! WANT TO COME WITH ME? WHAT A TEAM WE'LL MAKE!
PERFECT! WITH ROBIN WAITING AT THAT OLD OAK TREE -- THE JOKER'S WALKING RIGHT INTO OUR TRAP! WHICH WILL PROVE MY CONTENTION THAT DEREK'S MONEY WAS HIS REASON FOR PRETENDING TO BE INSANE!
SO THAT NIGHT, WHILE THE OTHERS SLEEP...
I MADE THIS SKELETON KEY MYSELF! THIS DOOR LEADS TO A PADDED CELL THEY'VE STOPPED USING -- BUT BETTER LET ME GO IN FIRST AND SEE IF ALL'S CLEAR!
SURE... I'LL WAIT!
BUT SUDDENLY, AFTER A BRIEF WAIT BESIDE THE OPEN DOOR...
SAY, ARE-- OOF!
AND SECONDS LATER, AS THE DAZED CRIME FIGHTER OPENS HIS EYES...
HA-HA-HA-HA! INGENIOUS, THIS BATMAN OUTFIT I FOUND NEATLY PACKED UNDER YOUR SHIRT -- COMPLETE WITH UTILITY BELT AND RADIO! YOUR FALSE TIP ON DEREK'S HIDDEN WEALTH MADE ME SUSPICIOUS, BECAUSE LAST NIGHT DEREK REVEALED THE REAL HIDING PLACE BY TALKING IN HIS SLEEP!
NOW, BEFORE LEAVING FOR MY TREASURE HOARD, I'LL TURN THIS WATER ON! IT'LL FILL THIS ROOM LIKE A BATH-TUB -- JUST TO REMIND YOU THAT YOU'RE A WASHOUT AS A MIND-READER! HA-HA-HA!
AND AS THE JOKER LEAVES THROUGH THE WINDOW TO CLIMB DOWN THE BUILDING'S IVY SIDES, HIS DESPERATE, STRAIT-JACKETED VICTIM STRUGGLES TO HIS FEET AS THE WATER RISES...
THAT VENTILATOR... IT'S A FEEBLE HOPE -- BUT IF I CAN HOLD MYSELF CLOSE ENOUGH TO IT, MAYBE I CAN FOOL THE JOKER SUFFICIENTLY TO DELAY HIM! EVERY MINUTE GAINED IS IMPORTANT!

A MOMENT LATER, AS THE JOKER PASSES THE OPEN WINDOW OF THE WARD DIRECTLY BELOW...
LISTEN, BATMAN-- IF YOU HURRY, YOU MIGHT BE JUST IN TIME TO TRAP THE JOKER AS HE COMES DOWN THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING!
HUH? BATMAN? HOW CAN HE BE DOWN HERE IF I LEFT HIM UPSTAIRS? HE COULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN AWAY!
I KNOW I'M NOT CRAZY-- BUT NEITHER AM I CRAZY ENOUGH TO TAKE CHANCES! IF SOMEONE'S READY TO NAB ME AS I COME DOWN, WHY RISK THAT WHEN I CAN CLIMB UP AGAIN AND FIND ANOTHER WAY OUT?
BUT UPON RETURNING TO THE ROOM WHERE HE LEFT HIS TRAPPED VICTIM, THE JOKER GETS THE BIGGEST SHOCK OF ALL!
WHAT? CAN I BE LOSING MY MIND? Y-YOU'RE BRUCE WAYNE-- THE PLAYBOY! BUT I LEFT BATMAN HERE! WHERE IS HE?
LUCKY I MANAGED TO WASH OFF MY DISGUISE AND SCATTER THE PARTS IN THE WATER BEFORE HE GOT BACK! NOW TO REALLY DRIVE HIM DAFFY!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN--- WHERE'S BATMAN? I'M BATMAN--! ME-- BRUCE WAYNE! YOU JUST TIED ME UP HERE YOURSELF!
NO--YOU COULDN'T BE BATMAN! IT'S A PLOT... A TRAP!... A WILD, CRAZY TRICK! BECAUSE I HEARD BATMAN IS DOWNSTAIRS!
BUT--IF IT WASN'T REALLY BATMAN I TIED UP--IT WASN'T YOU EITHER! THIS PLACE-- HAS IT AFFECTED MY MIND? CAN I BE GOING CRAZY?
BUT WAIT!...THIS VENTILATOR! YOU COULD'VE SHOUTED THROUGH IT SO THAT YOUR VOICE WOULD EMERGE DOWNSTAIRS! AND, IN MY EXCITEMENT, I'M FORGETTING SOMETHING ELSE--THAT BATMAN ALWAYS WEARS A DISGUISE TO PROTECT HIS IDENTITY! YOU COULD'VE REMOVED YOUR DISGUISE!
HA, HA... FOR A MOMENT, I WAS WORRIED ABOUT MY MIND! BUT NOW-- IT'S OBVIOUS! AND WHAT'S MORE-- I'VE FINALLY LEARNED THE SECRET OF BATMAN'S IDENTITY!
OF COURSE, JOKER... I'M BATMAN!
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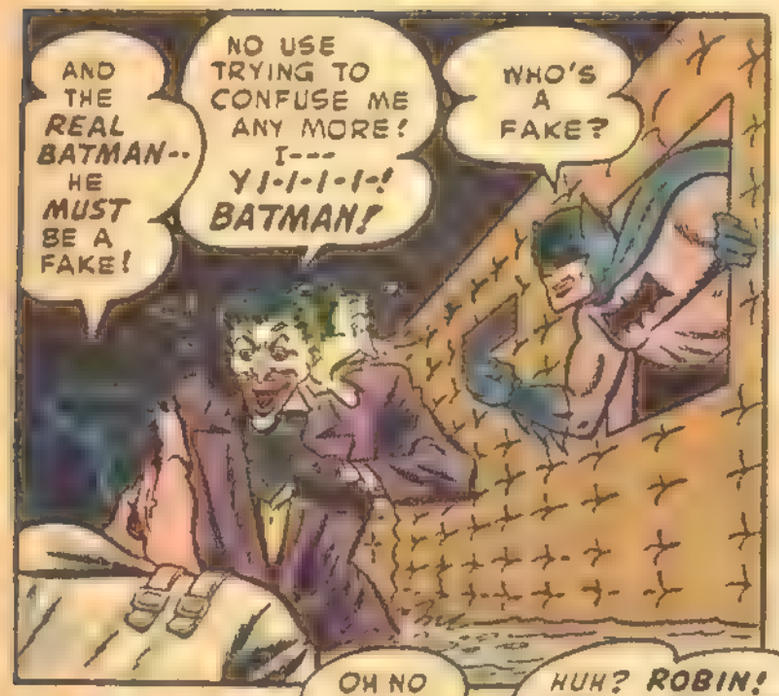
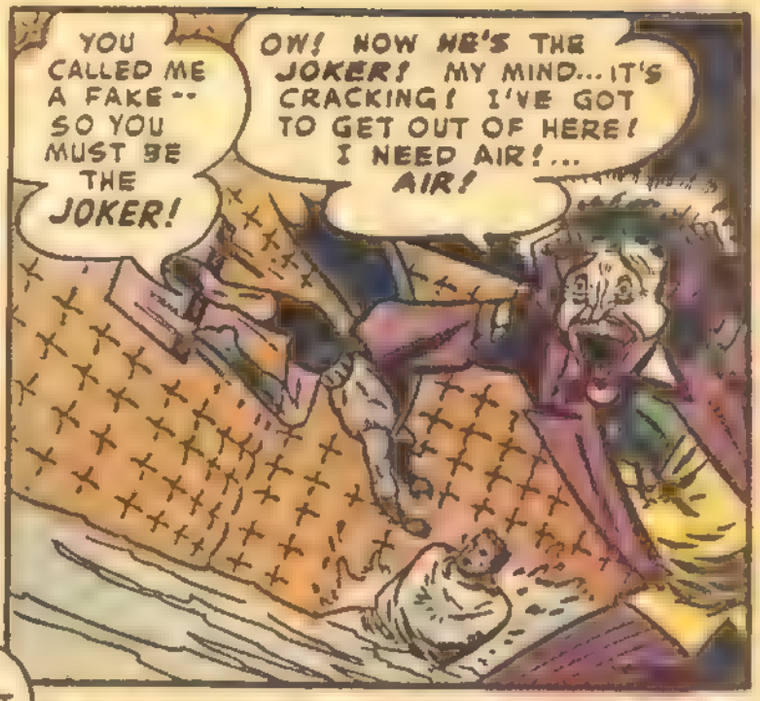
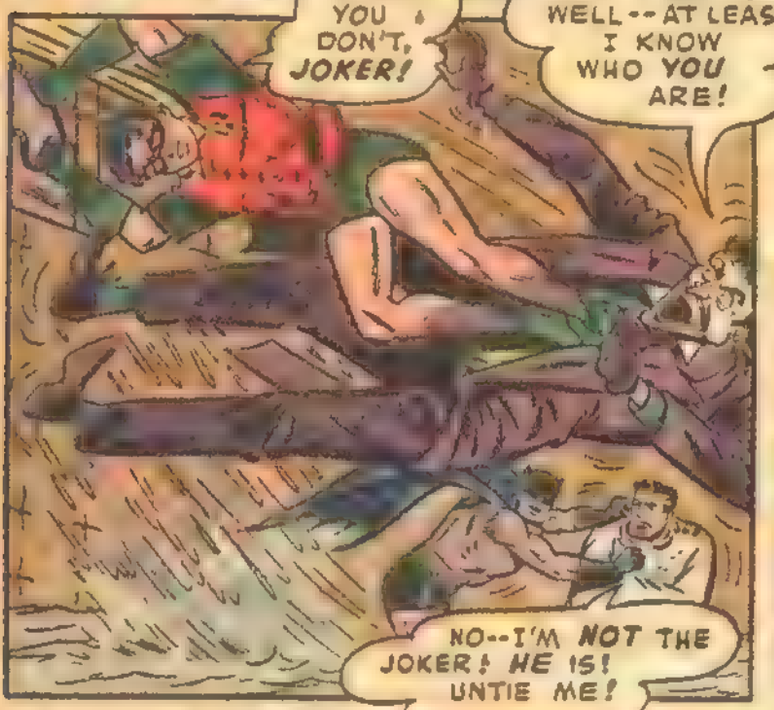
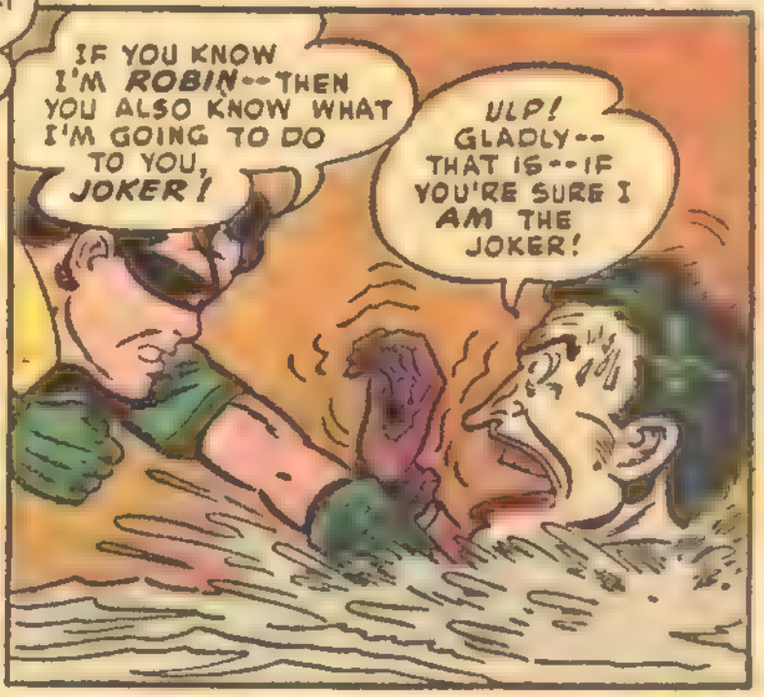
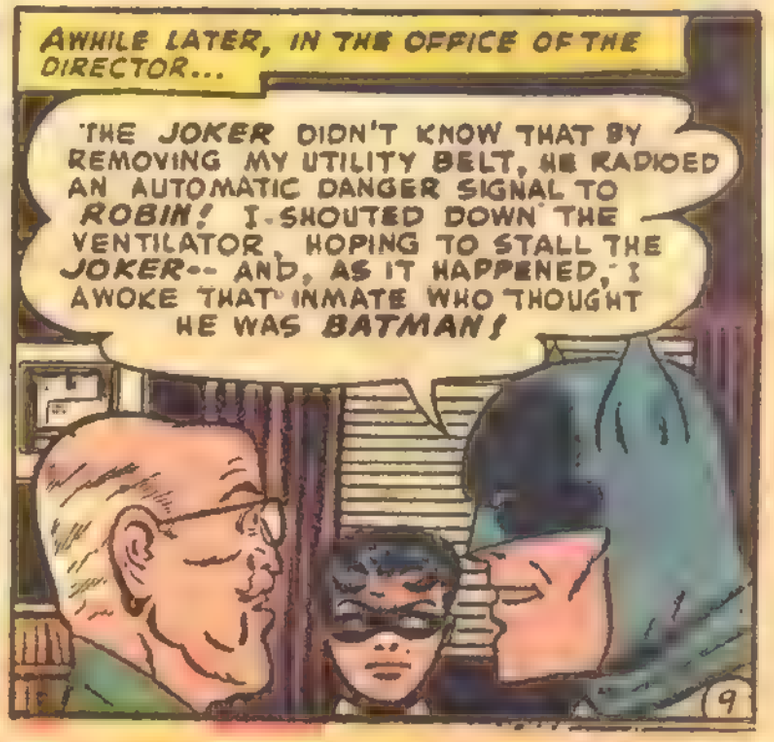

AND THE REAL BATMAN-- HE MUST BE A FAKE!
NO USE TRYING TO CONFUSE ME ANY MORE! I--- YI-I-I-I-! BATMAN!
WHO'S A FAKE?


YOU CALLED ME A FAKE-- SO YOU MUST BE THE JOKER!
OW! NOW HE'S THE JOKER! MY MIND... IT'S CRACKING! I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE! I NEED AIR!... AIR!


OH NO YOU DON'T, JOKER!
HUH? ROBIN! WELL--AT LEAST I KNOW WHO YOU ARE!
NO--I'M NOT THE JOKER! HE IS! UNTIE ME!


IF YOU KNOW I'M ROBIN--THEN YOU ALSO KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO TO YOU, JOKER!
ULP! GLADLY-- THAT IS--IF YOU'RE SURE I AM THE JOKER!

I NEVER SENT FOR ROBIN SO YOU MUST BE A FAKE AND-- OOCH!
ROBIN-- WATCH OUT!


AWHILE LATER, IN THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR...
THE JOKER DIDN'T KNOW THAT BY REMOVING MY UTILITY BELT, HE RADIOED AN AUTOMATIC DANGER SIGNAL TO ROBIN! I SHOUTED DOWN THE VENTILATOR, HOPING TO STALL THE JOKER-- AND, AS IT HAPPENED, I AWOKE THAT INMATE WHO THOUGHT HE WAS BATMAN!

I SAW HIM CLIMBING FROM HIS WARD WINDOW AS I APPROACHED, BUT HIS CLUMSINESS TOLD ME HE WASN'T--- COULDN'T--- BE THE REAL BATMAN! STILL HE WAS HELPFUL!
HE'S ALSO A VERY LUCKY MAN! THE DOCTORS TELL ME THAT BLOW ON THE HEAD HAS BROUGHT HIM BACK TO HIS SENSES!
THEN--SINCE HE SAW ME, HE MUST KNOW WHO BATMAN REALLY IS! WHICH MEANS THE END OF MY SECRET IDENTITY!
NO-NO! AS OFTEN HAPPENS IN SUCH RECOVERIES, THE PATIENT COMPLETELY FORGOT WHAT HAPPENED DURING HIS STATE OF MADNESS! SO HE KNOWS NOTHING ABOUT YOU!
BUT WHAT ABOUT THE JOKER WOULDN'T HE KNOW THE SECRET? AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN A PADDED CELL...
IF WAYNE IS BATMAN--THEN BATMAN COULDN'T BE BATMAN! BUT SINCE WAYNE COULDN'T BE BATMAN--THEN MAYBE I'M BATMAN! BUT--THAT'S CRAZY! HA-HA-HA-! SO OBVIOUSLY-- I'M CRAZY!
HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA, HA!
10
SEVERAL DAYS LATER, AS BRUCE AND DICK HAVE THEIR BREAKFAST...
I SEE WHERE THE JOKER'S RECOVERED FROM THE CONFUSING NIGHT WE GAVE HIM! THEY'RE TRANSFERRING HIM TO THE STATE PRISON!
YES--HE FINALLY HAD TO TELL THE AUTHORITIES WHERE DEREK'S MONEY WAS HIDDEN, IN ORDER TO PROVE THAT HE HIMSELF WAS SANE!
THE END

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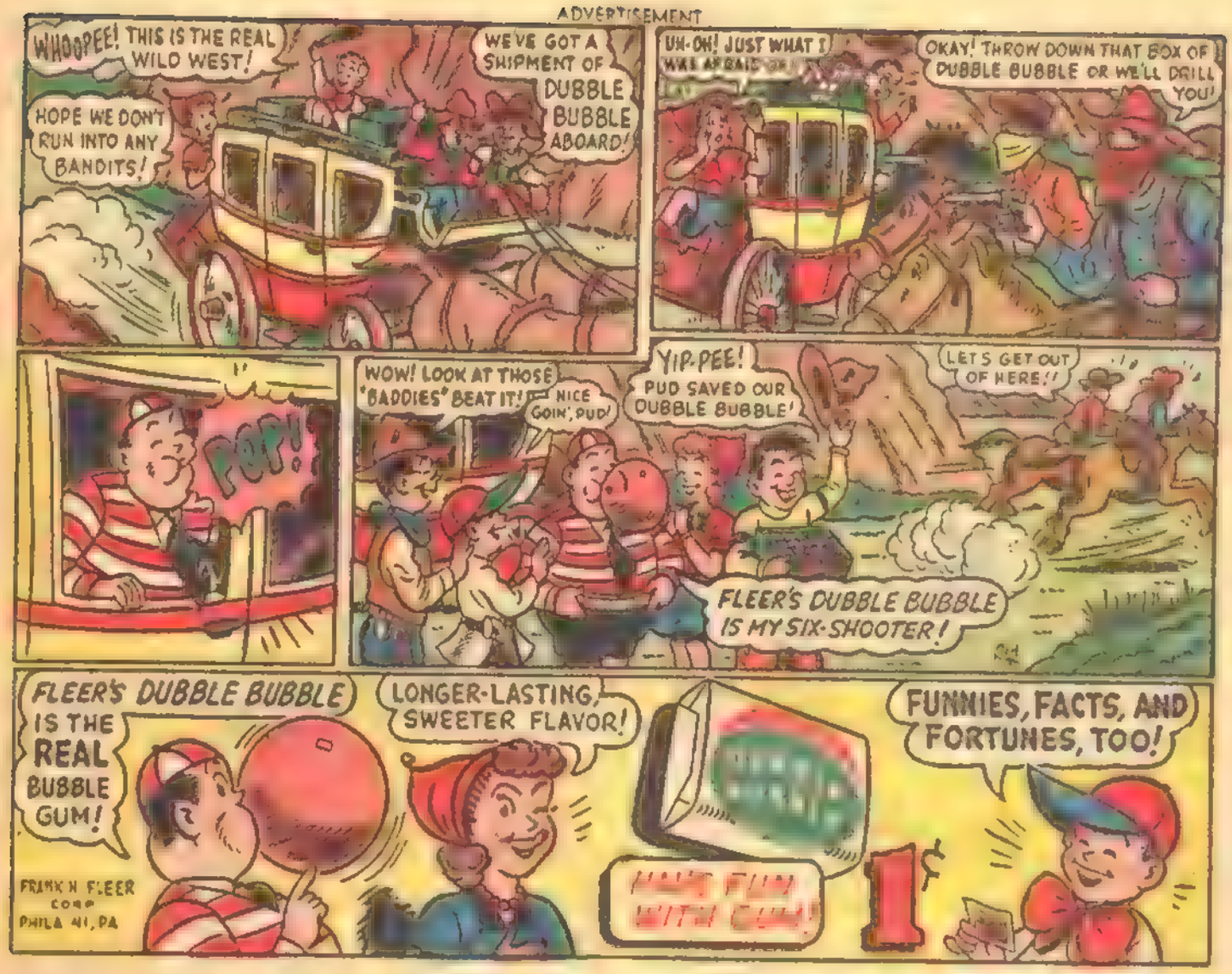
WHOOPEE! THIS IS THE REAL WILD WEST!
WE'VE GOT A SHIPMENT OF DUBBLE BUBBLE ABOARD!
HOPE WE DON'T RUN INTO ANY BANDITS!
UH-OH! JUST WHAT I WAS AFRAID OF!
OKAY! THROW DOWN THAT BOX OF DUBBLE BUBBLE OR WE'LL DRILL YOU!
POP!
WOW! LOOK AT THOSE "BADDIES" BEAT IT!
NICE GOIN', PUD!
YIP-PEE! PUD SAVED OUR DUBBLE BUBBLE!
LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!!
FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE IS MY SIX-SHOOTER!
FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE IS THE REAL BUBBLE GUM!
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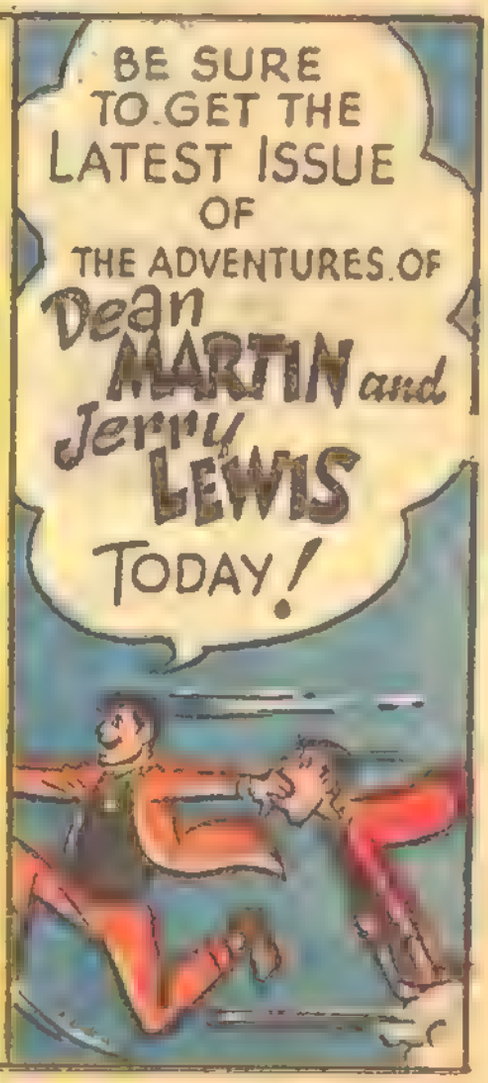


SUPERMAN shows how UNICEF SPELLS HELP FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD!

GOSH, WE SAW NEARLY EVERYTHING ON ALL 38 FLOORS OF THE UNITED NATIONS BUILDING. IT WAS WONDERFUL!
SURE, BUT LET'S GET GOING TO THAT MOVIE NOW!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, LEE? AREN'T YOU COMING WITH US?
WELL--ER--NO--I DECIDED NOT TO GO...
THAT'S NOT QUITE TRUE, LEE...
I SAW HIM TALKING WITH A LADY FROM THE UNITED NATIONS. HE GAVE HIS MONEY TO UNICEF--THE ORGANIZATION THAT HELPS CHILDREN ALL OVER THE WORLD.
"YOU SEE, LEE REALIZES THAT IN MANY COUNTRIES, CHILDREN DO NOT GET THE PROPER CARE. UNICEF SETS UP CLINICS...TRAINS HEALTH WORKERS...HELPS OUT WITH MILK, SHOES AND CLOTHING, MEDICINE, AND PROVIDES MANY OTHER SERVICES FOR THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN..."
WELL, IF LEE CAN DO WITHOUT THE MOVIE, I CAN, TOO. I'M GOING BACK AND GIVE MY MOVIE MONEY TO UNICEF.
ME, TOO! WE CAN ALL GO TO THE ZOO FOR NOTHING AND HAVE A GOOD TIME THERE!
THE UNITED NATIONS WANTS TO HELP ALL CHILDREN GROW UP WELL AND STRONG. WHEN YOU SEE THOSE INITIALS, UNICEF, REMEMBER, IT MEANS HELP FOR CHILDREN FROM THE UNITED NATIONS!

THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH LEADING NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE AND YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS.

CASEY
THE COP
HELLO, SARGE. CASEY REPORTING -WHAT'S NEW?
WE JUST GOT A TIP THAT MUGGSY O'DOUL IS AT THE BALL PARK!
AND THE PERSON WHO TIPPED US OFF GAVE US HIS EXACT SEAT LOCATION!
FINE, SARGE. I'LL PICK HIM UP MYSELF!
MUGGSY O'DOUL? HE JUST BROKE OUT OF PRISON!
TO THE BALL PARK- AND STEP ON IT!

BALL PARK
UMM - HE'S IN SECTION 7, ROW E !
I'D BETTER DO THIS QUIETLY - CAN'T RAISE A COMMOTION HERE.
HMM ...
LATER...
HERE'S YOUR PRISONER, SARGE!
IT'S ABOUT TIME! WHERE WERE YOU FOR THE PAST TWO HOURS?
WELL, SARGE, JUST AS I GOT TO MUGGSY'S SEAT, THE CROWD WENT WILD !
WILLIAMS HAD JUST HIT A HOME RUN TYING THE SCORE. SO I WAITED UNTIL THE GAME WAS OVER. BROOKLYN WON 6 TO 4 !
THE END

BAT MAN
With ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
IT WAS ALL OVER-- AND PUBLIC ENEMY SKID TURKEL WAITED IN DEATH ROW TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR HIS VICIOUS CRIMES. BUT SUDDENLY, OUT OF THE DOCUMENTARY FILM STORY OF THE KILLER'S LIFE, THERE BURST A DEADLY PAYOFF FOR THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS WHO HAD PUT HIM BEHIND BARS! SEE WITH YOUR OWN EYES HOW THE MOTION PICTURE CAMERA RECORDS THE TERRIFYING TWIST OF A GANGSTER'S REVENGE IN... "The MOVIE that KILLED BATMAN!"
BOB KANE

ONE MORNING IN GOTHAM CITY, AS BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD DICK GRAYSON ARE ABOUT TO DON ACTION UNIFORMS IN ORDER TO KEEP AN APPOINTMENT AS BATMAN AND ROBIN...
BRUCE--LOOK! A MOB OF REPORTORS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS HEADING TOWARD OUR FRONT DOOR.
GREAT SCOTT! THERE'S NO BIG STORY HERE--UNLESS OUR SECRET IDENTITIES HAVE BEEN EXPOSED! BETTER SKIP THE COSTUMES--JUST IN CASE!
WHERE'S ALFRED? IF ANYTHING HAS LEAKED OUT, MAYBE HE CAN STALL THEM OFF WHILE WE THINK UP SOME EXCUSE!
WHY--HE'S OUT IN FRONT ALREADY. AND--AND--GOSH! BRUCE! LOOK WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE!
WHY--THEY'RE TAKING HIS PICTURE AND INTERVIEWING HIM--AS THOUGH HE WERE SOME BIG CELEBRITY INSTEAD OF MERELY OUR BUTLER!
OF ALL THINGS! WHAT'S ALFRED BEEN UP TO BEHIND OUR BACKS?
WHILE OUTSIDE, ALFRED, THE WAYNE BUTLER, THE ONLY MAN ALIVE WHO KNOWS THAT BRUCE AND DICK ARE SECRETLY BATMAN AND ROBIN, FLASHES A SMILE FOR THE CAMERAS...
NOW, ALFRED--A BIG SMILE!
WHAT DOES YOUR EMPLOYER, BRUCE WAYNE, SAY TO YOUR NEW ROLE, ALFRED?
I'VE NOT INFORMED MAWSTER BRUCE AS YET--BUT I EXPECT TO SURPRISE HIM WITH IT VERY SOON!
WHILE IN THE WAYNE MANSION...
IT'S LATE! WE'LL HAVE TO SATISFY OUR CURIOSITY ABOUT ALFRED LATER, DICK! BATMAN AND ROBIN SHOULD'VE BEEN OVER AT THE NATIONAL FILM STUDIOS TEN MINUTES AGO!
SHORTLY AFTER, AT THE STUDIOS, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN MEET WITH PRODUCER WINGATE AND AN OFFICIAL OF THE STATE CRIME PREVENTION BUREAU...
YOUR ASSISTING ON THIS FILM TO STRIP THE GLAMOR FROM A VICIOUS CRIMINAL LIKE TURKEL IS A GREAT AID IN OUR CRIME-PREVENTION WORK,
THAT'S WHY I CONSIDER IT A DUTY TO HELP ON THIS FILM!
Gotham Gazette
BATMAN AND ROBIN TO ACT IN MOVIE LIFE OF PUBLIC ENEMY
TURKEL NOW AWAITING EXECUTION
FOLLOWING CAPTURE BY DARING DUO
BUT OUR CHIEF PROBLEM--FINDING THE RIGHT MAN TO PLAY TURKEL! ANY LUCK ON THAT YET, WINGATE?
YES, INDEED! HE'S DUE HERE VERY SOON!

AND SOME MOMENTS LATER, AS *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* SEE A FAMILIAR FIGURE FRAMED IN THE DOORWAY...

GENTLEMEN -- OUR NEW DISCOVERY, SPOTTED BY ONE OF OUR SCOUTS YESTERDAY! WITH HIS HAIR COVERED AND MUSTACHE SHAVED, HE'S A DEAD RINGER FOR TURKEL! HIS NAME'S ALFRED -- AND HE'S BEEN A BUTLER TO SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE!

WHY -- SO THAT EXPLAINS THOSE REPORTERS -- ER -- I MEAN, YES -- QUITE A RESEMBLANCE...

IT TAKES REAL SELF CONTROL FOR THE ASTONISHED CRIME-BUSTERS TO KEEP FROM GIVING THEMSELVES AWAY. BUT...

WHILE I SHAN'T DESERT MR. WAYNE, A FLING AT ACTING IS RIGHT DOWN MY WICKET! THEY DO SAY I WAS SUPERB IN THE ROLE OF HAMLET AT THE BUTLER'S JAMBOREE LAST YEAR, SO PLAYING TURKEL SHOULD BE SIMPLE.

THE WINDBAG. LISTEN TO HIM LAYING IT ON.

WITH "INTRODUCTIONS" OVER, NO TIME IS LOST IN PREPARING ALFRED FOR THE ROLE. AS THEY HEAD OUT TOWARD THE SETS...

NOW, ALFRED, LET ME BRIEF YOU ON THIS FIRST SHOOTING SET WHICH IS A DUPLICATE OF THE NORTH METROPOLIS SUBURBAN DEPOT WHERE TURKEL'S FIRST MAJOR CRIME WAS CARRIED OUT BACK IN 1939. AS I LEARNED FROM EYEWITNESSES BEFORE ARRIVING ON THE SCENE...

"TURKEL WAS SET TO STEAL THE RAND JEWEL COLLECTION HIDDEN IN AN ORDINARY LOOKING TRUNK BEING LOADED ON THE WESTBOUND TRAIN..."

NOBODY'S SUPPOSED TO KNOW IT'S THAT TRUNK THOSE COPS ARE WATCHING. EXCEPT THAT I GOT A TIP FROM MABLE WHO I STEERED INTO A JOB AS RAND'S MAID. AND ARE THOSE COPS DUE FOR A SURPRISE IN ANOTHER COUPLA SECONDS!

"SUDDENLY, A SMALL VALISE PLANTED BY TURKEL EXPLODED WITH DEVASTATING EFFECT, CLOUDING THE PLATFORM WITH DENSE SMOKE..."

COME ON -- NOW'S OUR CHANCE! MAKE LIKE WE'RE TRYING TO HELP AND THEN YANK THE JEWEL BOX OUTA THE BACK OF THAT RIPPED TRUNK!

"*ROBIN* AND I WERE AT MERCY HOSPITAL INTERVIEWING A WOUNDED CROOK WHEN THE AMBULANCE CALL CAME IN FROM THE DEPOT..."

COME ON, DOC. WE'LL TAKE YOU IN THE *BATMOBILE*! IT'LL GET YOU TO THE NORTH STATION MUCH FASTER THAN THE AMBULANCE!

GOOD! I UNDERSTAND THAT AT LEAST ONE MAN WAS BADLY HURT BY THAT EXPLOSION!

"WE ACTUALLY MADE IT SO FAST, WE SPOTTED TURKEL'S GETAWAY CAR ZOOMING OUT OF THE STATION..."

THAT CAR! MUST BE MAKING SOME KIND OF GETAWAY! SWING CLOSE, *ROBIN* -- AND WHEN I JUMP, KEEP GOING SO YOU CAN DELIVER THE DOCTOR!

"AS THE *BATMOBILE* SWERVED CLOSE TO THE FLEEING CAR, I JUMPED..."

IT--IT'S *BATMAN!* DRIVE UNDER THAT LOW ARCHWAY-- AND GET RID OF HIM-- QUICK!

BUT, SKID-- THOSE KIDS PLAYING THERE! I-I-WELL-- ANYTHING YOU SAY!

"AS THE CAR SWERVED TOWARD THE ARCHWAY, I HAD ONLY SECONDS TO USE MY *BAT-ROPE* TO SAVE THOSE KIDS AS WELL AS MYSELF..."

TO THINK THEY'D BE VICIOUS ENOUGH TO TRY TO RUN DOWN INNOCENT KIDS TO GET ME! THIS HAD BETTER WORK!

EASY, KIDS. THIS IS ONLY TO HELP YOU!

G-GOSH! *BATMAN!*

"SWINGING UP TO THE FIRE ESCAPE WITH THE LITTLE BOYS, I HEARD A CRASH AND, AN INSTANT LATER, A GUNSHOT. BY THE TIME I SWUNG DOWN AGAIN, I DISCOVERED..."

THE DRIVER MUST'VE LOST CONTROL WHEN I SWUNG IN FRONT OF HIM--BUT THAT CRASH COULDN'T HAVE HURT HIM UNLESS--WHY--WHY--HE'S BEEN *SHOT*--AND THE GUY WITH HIM HAS SKIPPED!

THAT WAS MY FIRST RUN-IN WITH TURKEL, A CRIMINAL SO KILL-CRAZY THAT HE PREFERRED TO SHOOT HIS OWN DRIVER FOR CRASHING THE CAR INSTEAD OF USING THOSE SECONDS TO GRAB THE JEWEL BOX WHICH I FOUND LYING ON THE CAR FLOOR!

BLIMEY! AND THAT'S THE MAN *I'M* TO PORTRAY!

WHILE AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN A CELL IN GOTHAM PRISON'S DEATH ROW, THE REAL SKID TURKEL GETS WORD OF THE FILM PROJECT VIA THE "GRAPEVINE"...

AND THE WORD IS THAT THIS MOVIE'S SUPPOSED TO SHOW WHAT A LOW RAT YOU WERE, SKID. TOO BAD YOU WON'T BE ALIVE TO SEE IT!

AN ENGLISH BUTLER PLAYIN' *ME?* HA! DEATH-HOUSE OR NOT, MAYBE I WILL SEE THAT MOVIE! BUT I AIN'T SURE *BATMAN* AND *ROBIN* WILL!

THESE THIN PLASTIC BELTS THEY GIVE US IN CASE WE MIGHT TRY TO HANG OURSELVES WITH OUR OWN LEATHER ONES -- IF THE WARDEN ONLY KNEW WHAT ELSE THEY COULD BE USED FOR!

NEXT MORNING, AT BREAKFAST IN THE WAYNE HOME...

BURNT TOAST-- OVERSALTED EGGS! GUESS A BIG MOVIE STAR LIKE YOU CAN'T BOTHER COOKING A DECENT BREAKFAST ANYMORE.'

FRANKLY, MAWSTER BRUCE-- IT'S BECAUSE OF TRYING TO WORK MYSELF INTO A STATE OF VICIOUSNESS IN PREPARATION FOR THE SCENES WE'RE SHOOTING THIS MORNING.'

THAT EVENING, AS THE RUSHES OF THE DAY'S TAKE ARE SHOWN IN THE PROJECTION ROOM...

SAY-- I'M REALLY TERRIFIC --WHAT?

SURE--MAYBE YOU MADE A MISTAKE BECOMING A BUTLER WHEN YOU SHOW SUCH TALENT FOR BEING A GANGSTER!

QUIET, YOU TWO! I'VE GOT TO BE SURE THESE SCENES FIT THE ACTUAL FACTS.'

ONE STEP CLOSER, BATMAN --AND I HURL THIS GAL OUT THE WINDOW.'

SKIDS-- YOU-- YOU WOULDN'T.'

UNFORTUNATELY, I'M SURE HE WOULD. ALL RIGHT, TURKEL. YOU WIN THIS TIME.'

.THIS IS THE SCENE THAT HURTS.' I'D HAVE GOTTEN TURKEL THAT TIME IF HIS HENCHMAN HADN'T KNOCKED ME OUT.'

PRESENTLY, AS THE VIEWING ENDS...

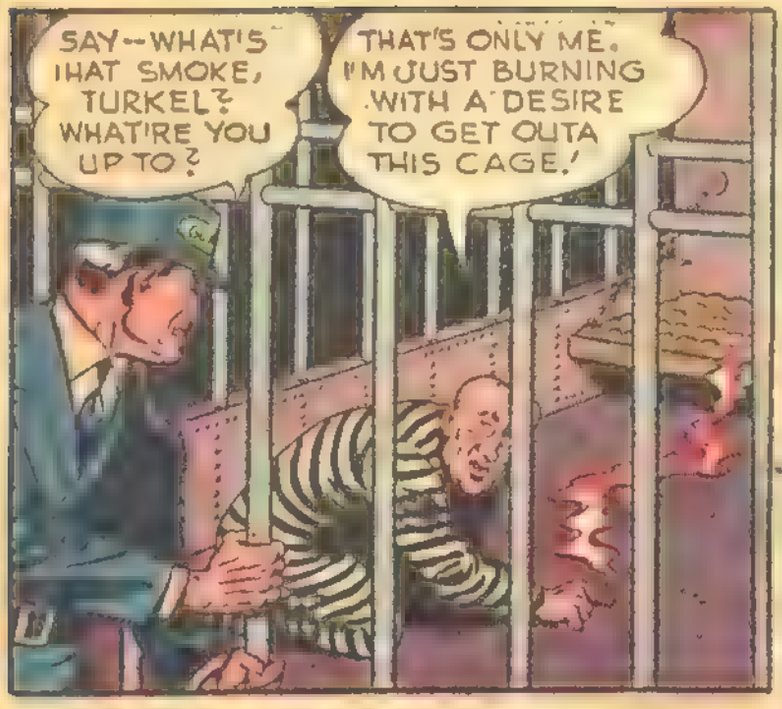
DEAR ME-- I'M SUCH A VICIOUS CHARACTER, IN THAT ROLE, THAT I PRACTICALLY HATE MYSELF. WHAT WILL WE BE FILMING TOMORROW, BATMAN?

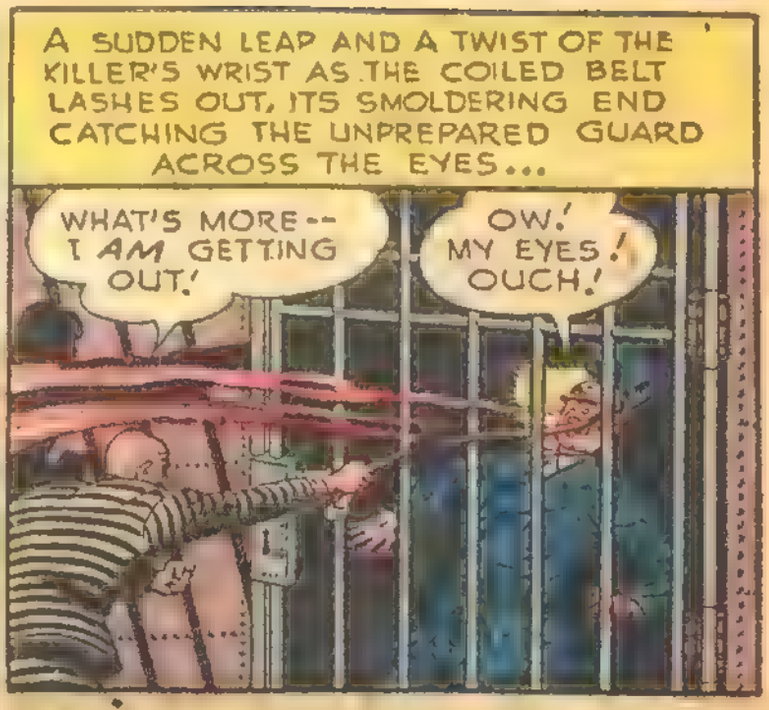
THE BIG SCENE! THE FINAL CAPTURE OF TURKEL THAT SENT HIM ON A ONE-WAY TRIP TO THE DEATH-HOUSE.'

BUT NOT SO ONE-WAY AS BATMAN THINKS, FOR AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE DEATH-HOUSE...

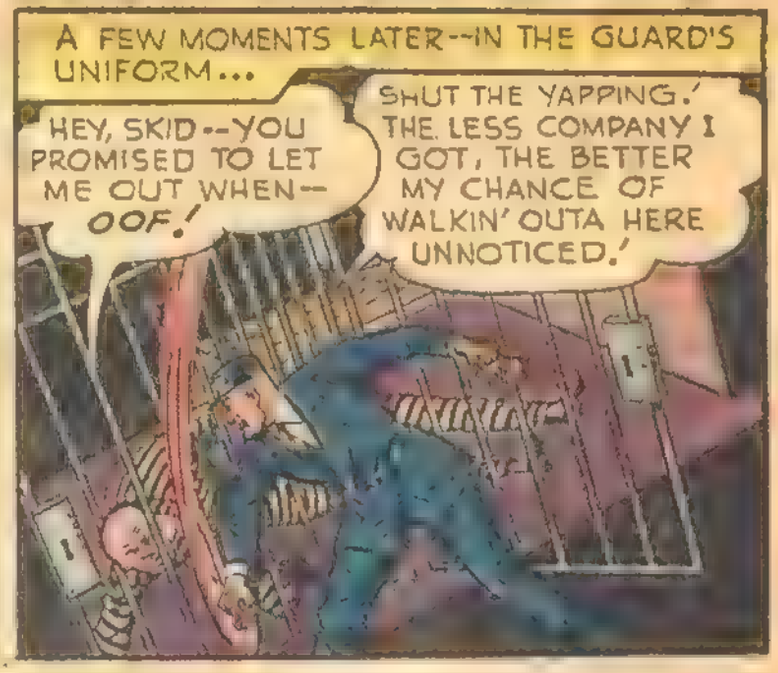
HSSST--SKID! HERE COMES THE GUARD. YOU READY WITH THAT PLASTIC BELT?

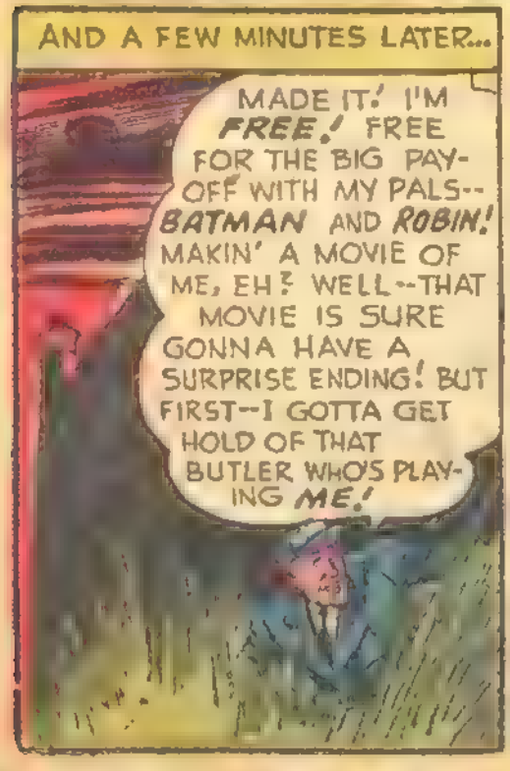
YEAH--A LITTLE FASTER WITH THIS FRICTION AND THE END'LL BUST INTO FLAME JUST AS HE COMES BY...

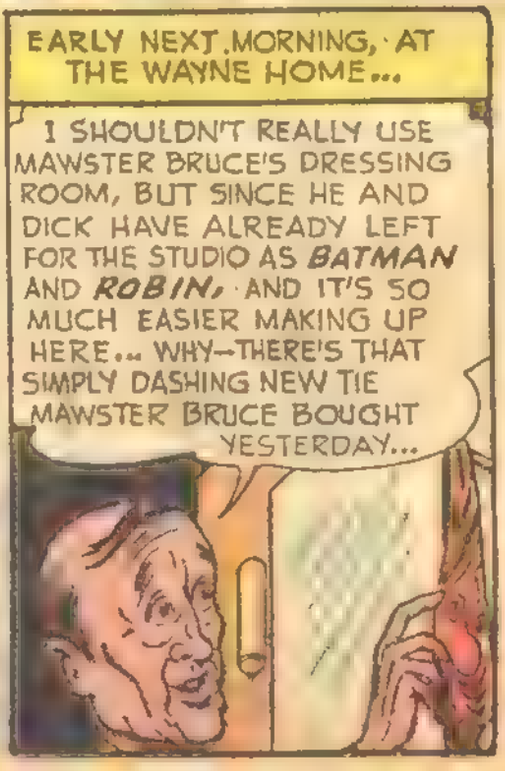

SAY--WHAT'S THAT SMOKE, TURKEL? WHAT'RE YOU UP TO?
THAT'S ONLY ME. I'M JUST BURNING WITH A DESIRE TO GET OUTA THIS CAGE.

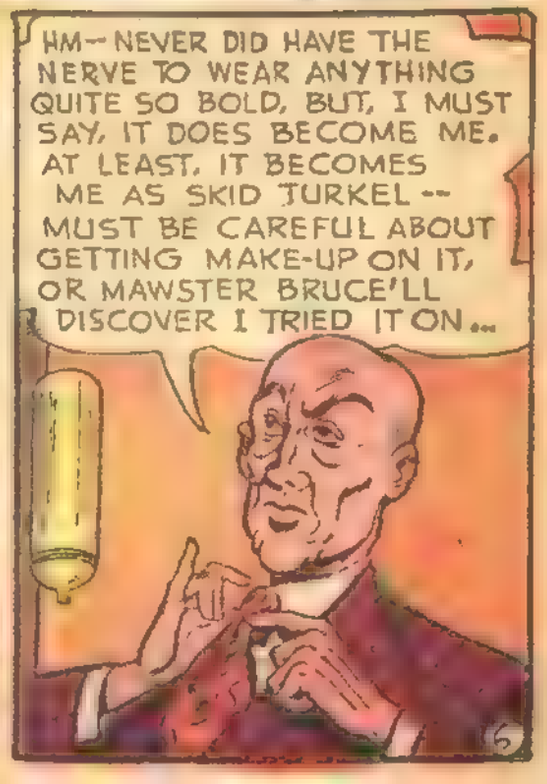

A SUDDEN LEAP AND A TWIST OF THE KILLER'S WRIST AS THE COILED BELT LASHES OUT, ITS SMOLDERING END CATCHING THE UNPREPARED GUARD ACROSS THE EYES...
WHAT'S MORE-- I AM GETTING OUT.
OW! MY EYES! OUCH!

SWIFT AS A PANTHER, SKID GRABS HIS BLINDED VICTIM...
OOF!
JUST WHAT I BEEN WAITIN' FOR! NOW FOR THE GUN AND THEM KEY'S HE'S GOT ON HIS BELT.


A FEW MOMENTS LATER--IN THE GUARD'S UNIFORM...
HEY, SKID--YOU PROMISED TO LET ME OUT WHEN-- OOF!
SHUT THE YAPPING.' THE LESS COMPANY I GOT, THE BETTER MY CHANCE OF WALKIN' OUTA HERE UNNOTICED.'


AND A FEW MINUTES LATER...
MADE IT! I'M FREE! FREE FOR THE BIG PAY-OFF WITH MY PALS-- BATMAN AND ROBIN! MAKIN' A MOVIE OF ME, EH? WELL--THAT MOVIE IS SURE GONNA HAVE A SURPRISE ENDING! BUT FIRST--I GOTTA GET HOLD OF THAT BUTLER WHO'S PLAYING ME!


EARLY NEXT MORNING, AT THE WAYNE HOME...
I SHOULDN'T REALLY USE MAWSTER BRUCE'S DRESSING ROOM, BUT SINCE HE AND DICK HAVE ALREADY LEFT FOR THE STUDIO AS BATMAN AND ROBIN, AND IT'S SO MUCH EASIER MAKING UP HERE... WHY--THERE'S THAT SIMPLY DASHING NEW TIE MAWSTER BRUCE BOUGHT YESTERDAY...


HM--NEVER DID HAVE THE NERVE TO WEAR ANYTHING QUITE SO BOLD, BUT, I MUST SAY, IT DOES BECOME ME. AT LEAST, IT BECOMES ME AS SKID TURKEL -- MUST BE CAREFUL ABOUT GETTING MAKE-UP ON IT, OR MAWSTER BRUCE'LL DISCOVER I TRIED IT ON...

SUDDENLY...
DEAR ME-- I--I SEEM TO BE SEEING DOUBLE-- BUT HOW COULD THAT BE UNLESS (GASP)--MY DOUBLE IS--
SKID TURKEL -- THE GENUINE ARTICLE.'
SHORTLY AFTER...
I'LL JUST PUT ON THIS SUIT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO WEAR TODAY ACCORDING TO THIS SCRIPT. AND-- BEIN' THE REAL McCOY, I WON'T HAVE TO MEMORIZE THE LINES. I KNOW THEM BY HEART! BESIDES--I'M PLANNING A FEW IMPORTANT CHANGES IN THE ENDING! HA-HA!
AS FOR YOU, I'M LEAVING YOU THIS-- AND LOCKING YOU IN SO YOU'LL KNOW THAT YOU'RE FIRED AS AN ACTOR! HA-HA!
SOON, AT THE FILM STUDIO...
I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS THIS NEXT SCENE BEFORE WE START SHOOTING, SINCE IT'LL BE THE BIG CLIMAX! WHERE'S ALFRED?
HERE HE COMES NOW!
IF THEY ONLY KNEW THE CHANGES I'M GONNA MAKE IN THEIR SCRIPT...
PRESENTLY, ON THE SET OF THE LAST SCENE...
NOW, ALFRED-- I'LL RUN OVER THIS FINAL SCENE THE WAY IT ACTUALLY HAPPENED, SO THAT WHEN WE START SHOOTING, YOU'LL BE ALL SET. IT WAS LAST JULY. ROBIN AND I SPENT THE NIGHT PATROLLING IN THE BATMOBILE AND THE DAWN WAS JUST COMING UP...
"SUDDENLY, OUR POLICE RADIO ANNOUNCED THAT SKID TURKEL HAD JUST HELD UP THE GOTHAM OPERA AND THE GETAWAY CAR WAS SPEEDING SOUTH ON MILL STREET..."
BUT, BATMAN-- THIS TURN WILL ONLY LEAD TO THE WATERFRONT!
REMEMBER--THERE'S A DETOUR SOUTH OF MILL STREET. IF TURKEL WENT THAT WAY, HE'D EITHER HAVE TO TAKE THE HIGHWAY AND RISK A BLOCKADE--OR SWING EAST TO THE DOCKS WHERE THERE MAY BE A SHIP PULLING OUT!
"PRESENTLY, AS WE CAME RACING TOWARD THE WATERFRONT..."
SEE--I WAS RIGHT! THAT FREIGHTER'S JUST PICKING UP THE LAST OF A CRATE OF BANANAS FOR SHIPMENT TO SOME CANADIAN PORT! TURKEL MUST'VE TIMED EVERYTHING TO MAKE THAT SHIP!
HURRY-- THEY'RE PULLING UP THE GANGPLANK!

"BUT I WAS ONLY PARTLY RIGHT, FOR HARDLY HAD WE GOTTEN ABOARD THE ALREADY MOVING VESSEL, WHEN..."

THE GETAWAY CAR! THERE IT GOES! TURKEL MUST'VE KNOWN WE'D BE RIGHT ON HIS HEELS IF WE WERE ON PATROL--AND FIGURED WE'D BOARD THIS BOAT LOOKING FOR HIM--GIVING HIM TIME TO DOUBLE BACK AND MAKE A CLEAN GETAWAY!

"ACTUALLY, IT WAS A DELIBERATE TAUNT--BECAUSE HE DIDN'T HAVE TO RISK TRICKING US THAT WAY. BUT--THEN I NOTICED THAT CRATE OF BANANAS STILL DANGLING FROM THE SHIP'S BOOM..."

BATMAN--WH--WHAT'S UP?

IF THIS WORKS--THAT GETAWAY CAR ISN'T GOING TO GET VERY FAR!

"AS I HOPED, THE SPEEDING LIMOUSINE SKIDDED WILDLY ON THE SOFT PULPY FRUIT FROM THE SHATTERED CRATE..."

COME ON--NOW'S OUR CHANCE!

"BUT--SWIFT AS A PANTHER, SKID LEAPED FROM THE CAR, CATCHING US IN MID-SWING WITH A HAIL OF DEADLY TOMMY-GUN FIRE!"

WE--WE'RE SUNK, BATMAN! HE--HE CAN'T MISS US!

HE--HE CAN'T BUT--BUT HE SEEMS TO BE MISSING US--EVEN THOUGH HE'S A DEAD SHOT WITH ONE OF THOSE TOMMY-GUNS!

"WE HAD LITTLE TIME FOR WONDERING HOW WE'D ESCAPED AS WE LANDED AND WADED INTO THE GANG..."

HERE'S WHERE I PUT MY FOOT INTO SOMETHING--AND GET A REAL KICK OUT OF IT!

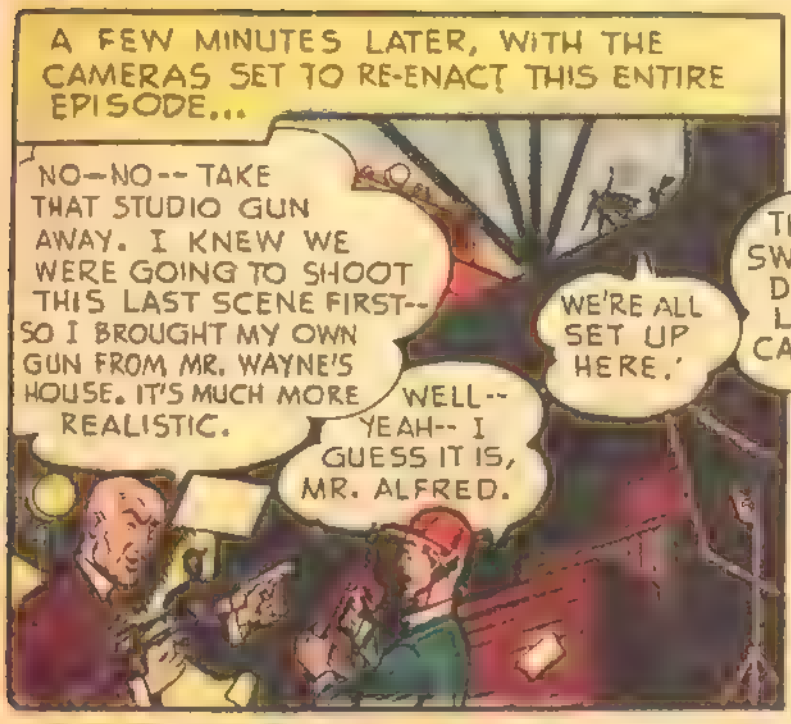
OUCH! MABEL! THIS IS HER DIRTY DOUBLE-CROSS!

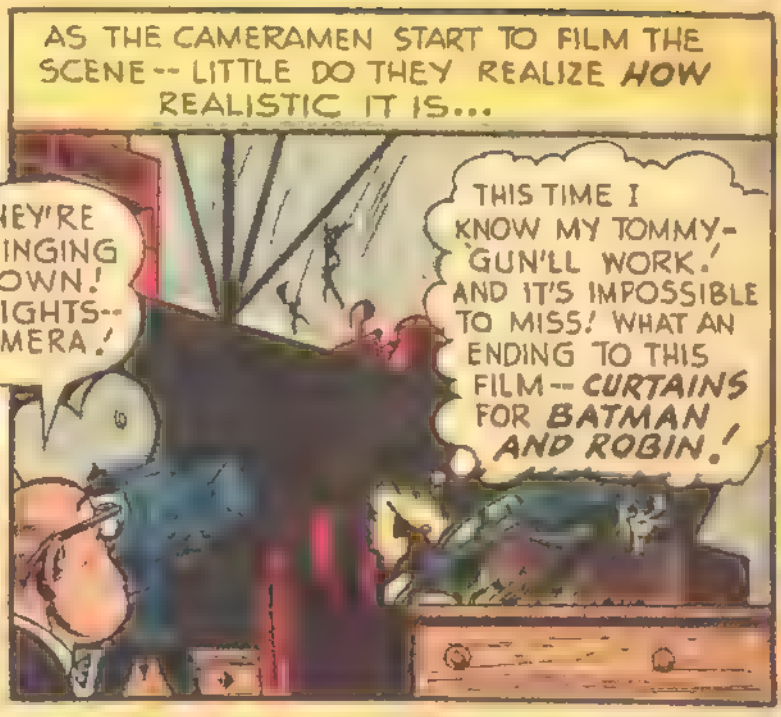
AS YOU KNOW, MABEL WAS SKID'S GIRL--THE ONE HE TRIED TO TOSS FROM THE WINDOW TO SAVE HIMSELF FROM ME!

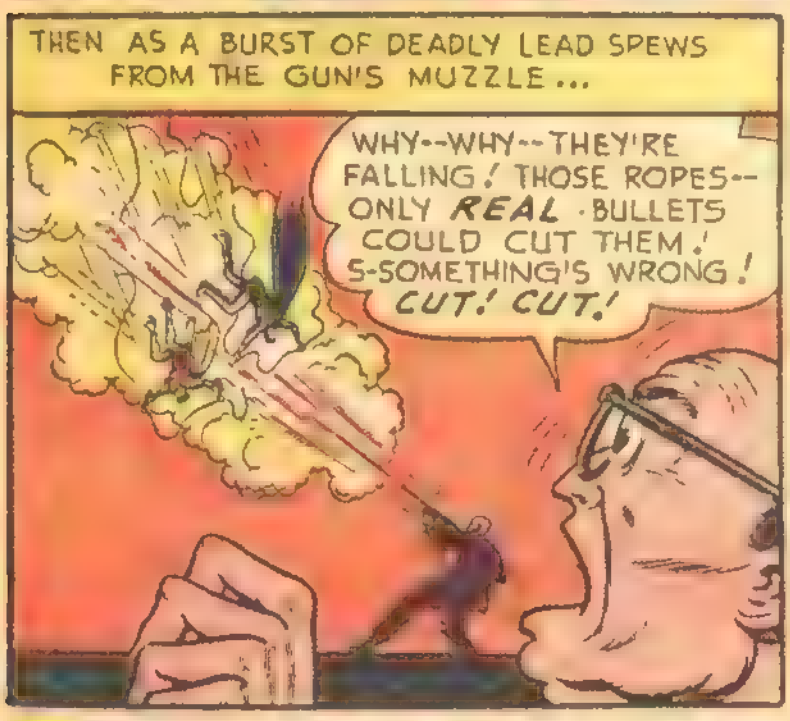
YEAH--I KNOW!

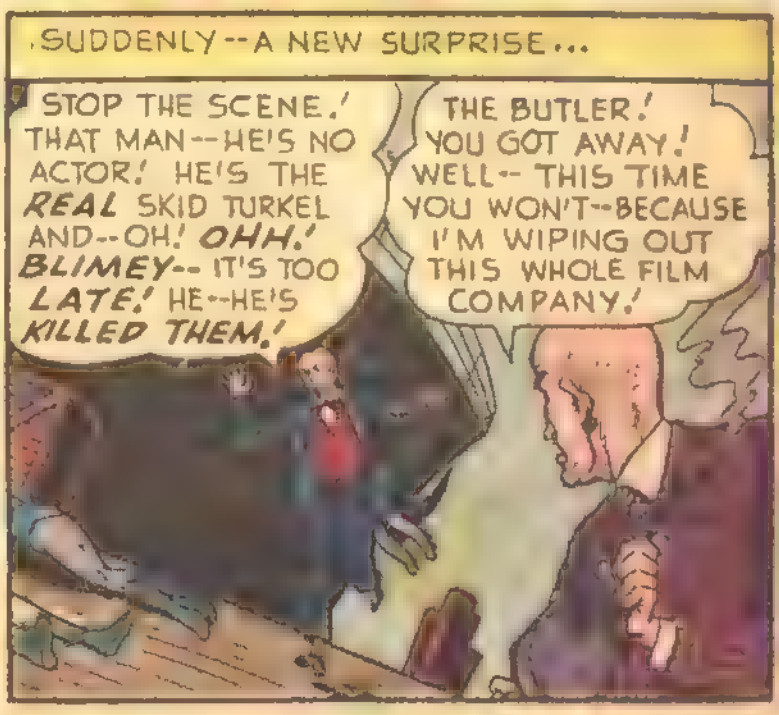
I SHOULD--I'M THE REAL TURKEL!

AND SHE DOCTORED THAT TOMMY-GUN TO PAY HIM OFF. ALL RIGHT--LET'S TAKE OUR PLACES. I'M ALL SET!

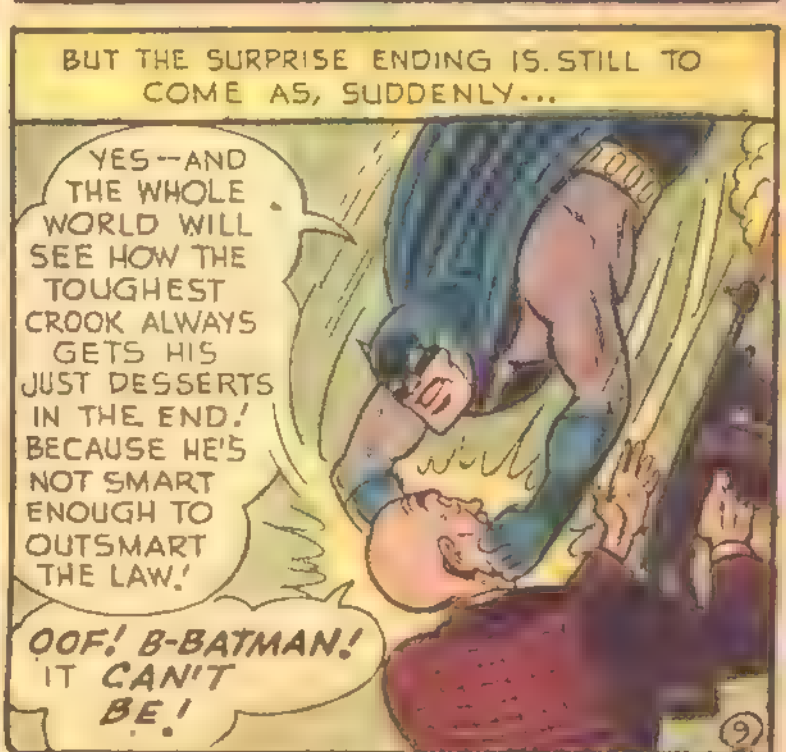

A FEW MINUTES LATER, WITH THE CAMERAS SET TO RE-ENACT THIS ENTIRE EPISODE...
NO--NO-- TAKE THAT STUDIO GUN AWAY. I KNEW WE WERE GOING TO SHOOT THIS LAST SCENE FIRST-- SO I BROUGHT MY OWN GUN FROM MR. WAYNE'S HOUSE. IT'S MUCH MORE REALISTIC.
WELL-- YEAH-- I GUESS IT IS, MR. ALFRED.
WE'RE ALL SET UP HERE.'
THEY'RE SWINGING DOWN! LIGHTS-- CAMERA!


AS THE CAMERAMEN START TO FILM THE SCENE -- LITTLE DO THEY REALIZE HOW REALISTIC IT IS...
THIS TIME I KNOW MY TOMMY-GUN'LL WORK.' AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO MISS! WHAT AN ENDING TO THIS FILM -- CURTAINS FOR BATMAN AND ROBIN!


THEN AS A BURST OF DEADLY LEAD SPEWS FROM THE GUN'S MUZZLE...
WHY--WHY--THEY'RE FALLING! THOSE ROPES-- ONLY REAL BULLETS COULD CUT THEM! S-SOMETHING'S WRONG! CUT! CUT!


SUDDENLY -- A NEW SURPRISE...
STOP THE SCENE.' THAT MAN--HE'S NO ACTOR! HE'S THE REAL SKID TURKEL AND--OH! OHH.' BLIMEY-- IT'S TOO LATE! HE--HE'S KILLED THEM.'
THE BUTLER! YOU GOT AWAY! WELL-- THIS TIME YOU WON'T--BECAUSE I'M WIPING OUT THIS WHOLE FILM COMPANY!

CAN'T YOU SEE THE HEADLINES? TURKEL WRITES BULLET-PACKED FINISH TO HIS OWN MOVIE! YOU-- CAMERAMAN! START THAT CAMERA GOING! THIS HAS GOT TO BE ON FILM SO THE WHOLE WORLD CAN SEE HOW TOUGH SKID TURKEL IS!!


BUT THE SURPRISE ENDING IS STILL TO COME AS, SUDDENLY...
YES--AND THE WHOLE WORLD WILL SEE HOW THE TOUGHEST CROOK ALWAYS GETS HIS JUST DESSERTS IN THE END! BECAUSE HE'S NOT SMART ENOUGH TO OUTSMART THE LAW!
OOF! B-BATMAN! IT CAN'T BE!

I SAY--THIS IS ALL QUITE CONFUSING BUT THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN DELIVER A HAY-MAKER LIKE THAT-- IS *BATMAN!*

WE'RE NOT GHOSTS--IF THAT'S WHAT YOU MEAN!

LATER...

SO WHILE YOU WERE UP AT THE SHIP'S RAIL, YOU STUFFED STRAW INTO SPARE COSTUMES IN YOUR UTILITY BELTS AND THAT'S WHAT TURKEL SHOT AT.'

BUT--HOW'D YOU GUESS IT WAS HE? THE NEWS OF HIS ESCAPE HAS ONLY JUST BEEN BROAD-CAST.'

ER--WELL--I GUESS IT WAS JUST INSTINCT, CAPTAIN.'

AND YOU--TURKEL SAID YOU WERE SECURELY LOCKED AND BOUND IN MR. WAYNE'S DRESSING ROOM WHICH HE SET ON FIRE! HOW DID *YOU* ESCAPE?

ER--WELL--AN OLD--UH--MAGICIAN'S TRICK--YOU MIGHT SAY!

BUT THAT EVENING AT THE WAYNE HOME...

NOW--OUT WITH IT! YOU DIDN'T SPOT TURKEL BY INSTINCT.' WHAT'S THE BIG SECRET?

I NOTICED THAT SKID WAS WEARING MY *NEW* TIE! SOMETHING ALFRED WOULDN'T *DARE* DO IN *BATMAN'S* PRESENCE BE-CAUSE THE REAL ALFRED KNOWS I'M *BATMAN.'*

COULD I TELL *THAT* TO THE POLICE?

QUITE SO! THAT'S WHY I COULDN'T EXPLAIN *MY* ESCAPE EITHER. MOST EM-BARRASSING IF I'D MENTIONED THE SECRET FLOOR PANEL THAT CHUTED ME INTO THE *BAT-CAVE* WHERE I COULD ROLL TOWARD A KNIFE, CUT MYSELF LOOSE AND DOUSE THE FIRE!

THE END

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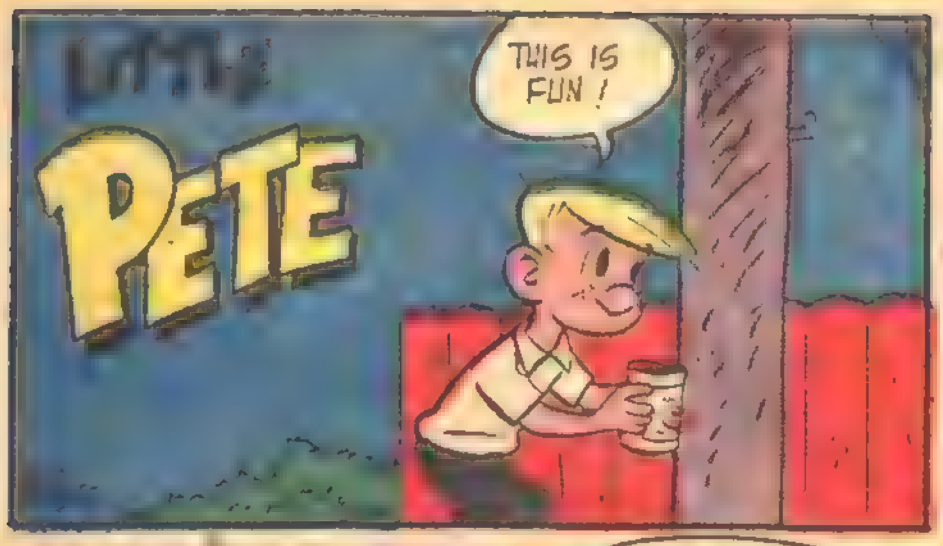

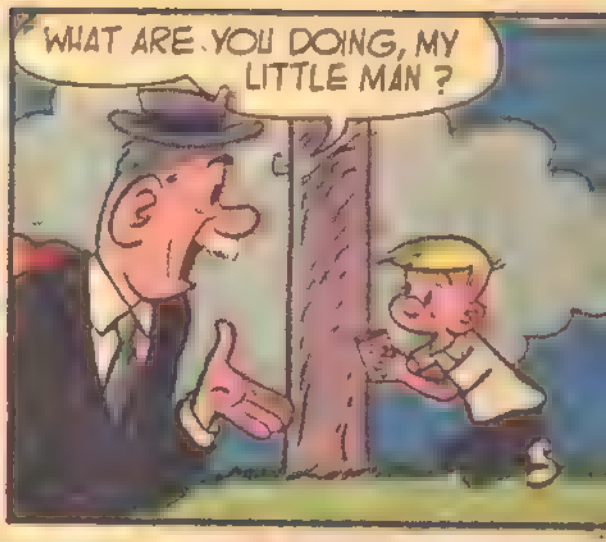

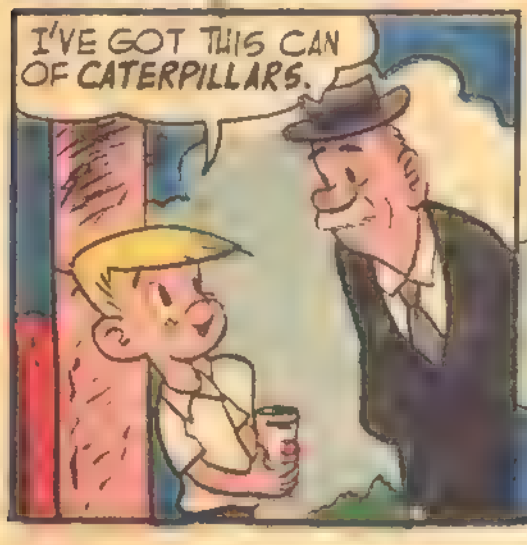

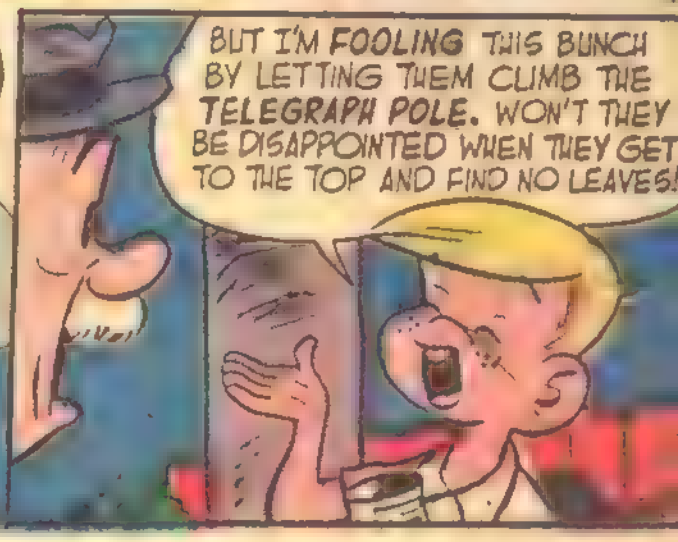
BUT I'M FOOLING THIS BUNCH BY LETTING THEM CLIMB THE TELEGRAPH POLE. WON'T THEY BE DISAPPOINTED WHEN THEY GET TO THE TOP AND FIND NO LEAVES!

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VARSITY VIC
PARDON ME, WHERE IS THE GREEK LITERATURE KEPT?
LIBRARIAN
I'LL SHOW YOU, YOUNG MAN!
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU INTERESTED IN SUCH A CLASSICAL SUBJECT!
I, TOO, AM A STUDENT OF ANCIENT GREECE.
NOW HERE IS A BOOK THAT JUST CAME IN. I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND IT MOST INTERESTING!
GREEK LIT.
THANK YOU, MA'AM. I JUST CAME TO MEET MY GIRL FRIEND. WE HAD A DATE IN THIS SECTION!
END

SMOKING OUT SMUGGLERS

Secret Service and Customs Agents Are More Vigilant Than Ever, for They Know That These Criminals Never Say Die

NOT so long ago, an investigator of the United States Customs happened to glance at a refrigerator that was being shipped overseas. Customs men are naturally suspicious individuals, and this particular one was irked by a recent report that gold-smuggling was on the increase.

He glanced at the shipping papers accompanying the refrigerator, and decided the machine warranted looking into. From long experience, he knew that the average person, shipping a refrigerator overseas, is very careful to make certain that it's going to be protected from getting scratched and marred.

Whoever was sending this refrigerator had wound steel bands around it, and these bands had cut deep into the polished surface enamel. What's more, the box was insured for an amount far in excess of its actual value.

The Customs man ordered the shipping case and wire bands removed, and the refrigerator opened. He wasn't particularly surprised to find it completely empty. Customs men are pretty wise by now to the devious ways of smugglers.

Prepared to pay the damage if he guessed wrong, he ordered the box dismantled, revealing a lining of the purest gold plate!

Our Customs man shrugged off colleagues' words of praise with:

"Oh, that didn't require any special brains. The same thing was tried a couple of years back—with a stove!"

Why the current upswing in gold-smuggling? Because gold remains the most precious and stable commodity in world markets. As one expert put it, "There is always a steady market in Europe, and Argentina has come up in the last two years as one of the biggest black market centers for smuggled gold."

The United States Assay Office sells gold to licensed refiners at about $35 an ounce. The refiners, in turn, are satisfied with a modest margin of profit of under nine dollars an ounce. Therefore, where the high on the legitimate market has reached $43 an ounce, the black market has brought as much as $80 an ounce.

Black market deals, as a rule, are prepared well in advance of the actual transfer of gold for cash. Here is how a typical case goes:

Runners will receive an order from abroad for gold, being paid in advance for the metal. Runners generally operate on a profit of from 25 to 30 cents an ounce. After the gold is collected, it is made ready for shipment.

It can be pounded into a flat plate and inserted in the lining of a refrigerator, as previously described, or four or five pounds of the gleaming metal can be pressed into the lining of a pair of shoes.

The gold will be taken to Europe by a courier, who gets about $1500 for the trip. When the courier reaches the foreign port, he

is met by a man he doesn't know, but who identifies himself by some pre-arranged code. The courier wastes no time in turning the gold over to the stranger.

Customs men once found almost thirty pounds of gold hidden in a specially constructed vest worn under a regular shirt. In Dijon, France, a Swiss resident was arrested by agents of the French customs when he crossed the Swiss frontier at La Cure in a large American car.

The Swiss had aroused the curiosity of a filling-station attendant in Dole by paying undue attention to the wheels of the car, which were, according to the attendant, operating perfectly. The attendant mentioned this to a local policeman, who relayed he incident to Dijon, where it was discovered that the hub caps were fashioned of pure gold!

The automobile happens to be a favorite instrument used by gold smugglers. Agents have found gold hidden in false gas tanks, and in containers welded to the under sides of fenders. A recent gold seizure showed that the smuggler had removed the running boards of a car. As though made to order, the supports of the running boards each contained three wells. And each well contained a gold bar.

Besides lining refrigerators with gold plate, smugglers, in one instance, removed the refrigerator motor, and in its place put gold of equal weight.

Secret Service agents have split open bed posts and drawn out gold wire and ribbon worth millions. One agent, on a hunch, took the roller of a typewriter, and found it loaded with the metal.

Gold has been shipped in cans of paint, barrels of grease (no doubt in the mistaken hope that agents wouldn't want to dip their hands into the mess), and sealed cans of chicken fat. Once, an agent, lifting a salami presumably en route to a salami-starved sufferer in Europe, almost fell over at the unexpected weight of the delicacy.

A would-be smuggler with a steel plate in his head, the result of a serious accident suffered years before, once approached a doctor to ask him if he would exchange the steel plate for a removable gold one. The good doctor needed a consultation for that one—with the Secret Service.

Assistant United States Attorney Louis I. Kaplan, who has been working on this problem in conjunction with the Secret Service and the United States Customs, said recently that illegal trading in fine gold to be smuggled into foreign ports gained impetus after the last war.

The peak, he revealed, was reached in 1949 and early 1950, when the United States Assay Office in New York was selling $8,000,000 worth of gold a month to licensed dealers. Before that, the average had been between $6,000,000 and $7,000,000 a month.

Since the start of the current campaign, the monthly legitimate purchases in fine gold has dropped to $4,000,000. This is an indication, concluded the attorney, that the operations of the gold-smuggling racket have been cut sharply.

These optimistic figures will only serve to make Secret Service and Customs agents more vigilant than ever, for they know that smugglers never say die—there's too much big money in it.

Agents personally like the case of the smuggler who, having run out of ideas to conceal cleverly four bars of gold he wished to smuggle into Canada, simply tied a string around the bars, without any additional covering. He then dumped the exposed package on the front seat of his car, beside him, and with a straight face, answered "no" to the question as to whether or not he was taking anything across the border.

He almost got away with it, too—until a ray of sunshine glanced off the gold bar, temporarily blinding a Customs man.

—by Jim Moss

BATMAN
ROBIN
HAD ENOUGH OF THE WATER? YET, BATMAN? HA-HA! LOOK AT TWO POOR FISH!
EVERYBODY KNOWS ALL ABOUT WATER—ONE OF THE MOST COMMON THINGS IN THE WORLD! IT PUTS OUT FIRES, QUENCHES THIRST, FURNISHES ELECTRICITY, MAKES PLANTS GROW; IT HAS COUNTLESS USES! BUT DID YOU EVER HEAR OF WATER BEING USED FOR CRIME?? THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS NOW—WHEN BATMAN AND ROBIN RUN UP AGAINST ONE OF THE STRANGEST CRIMINALS OF THEIR CAREER! THE MAN CALLED HYDRO—WHO USES WATER AS A WEAPON—AND THREATENS TO ENGULF ALL OF GOTHAM CITY IN THE STORY CALLED...
THE WATER CRIMES OF MR. HYDRO!

ONE AFTERNOON, AT A PRISON BASEBALL GAME WITHIN THE WALLS OF GOTHAM STATE PENITENTIARY...
HEY, TIM FLAGG! C'MON WITH THAT WATER! I'M DYIN' OF THIRST! HURRY UP!
I'M COMIN', CHAMP! I'M COMIN'!
AND WHEN CHAMP DEXTER HAS HIS FILL OF THE WATER...
CHAMP, LISSEN! I HEAR YOU AND SOME OF THE BOYS ARE BREAKIN' OUTA HERE TONIGHT! I WANT IN, CHAMP! TAKE ME ALONG!
ARE YOU KIDDIN'? TAKE YOU?! LISSEN, PUNK! BREAKIN' OUTA HERE IS A MAN'S JOB! WE DON'T WANT NO WATER-BOYS GETTIN' IN OUR WAY!
BUT, CHAMP! I KIN HELP! I GOT BRAINS! GIMME A CHANCE, CHAMP!
BRAINS! HUH! YOU'VE BEEN A WATER-BOY ALL YER LIFE! THAT'S ALL YER GOOD FOR-- BRINGIN' THE STRONG GUYS WATER! NOW LEGGO!
BUT AS THE THWARTED TIM FLAGG CONTINUES TO PLEAD WITH DEXTER...
I TOLD YA TO LAY OFF ME! MAYBE THIS'LL PUT SOME SENSE INTO YER HEAD! HERE- HAVE SOME OF YOUR PRECIOUS WATER!
SLOSH!
HAW! LOOKIT THE WATER-BOY!
HA-HA! WATER-BOY FLAGG IS SURE ALL WET!
THAT EVENING...
STUPID WATER-BOY!
WATER-BOY ALL HIS LIFE
ALL WET
HAW
GOOD FOR NOTHING ELSE BUT CARRYING WATER!!
THEN...
WATER-BOY, EH? I'LL SHOW 'EM! THEY'VE GIVEN ME AN IDEA! WATER! YEAH! I'LL SHOW 'EM WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH WATER!

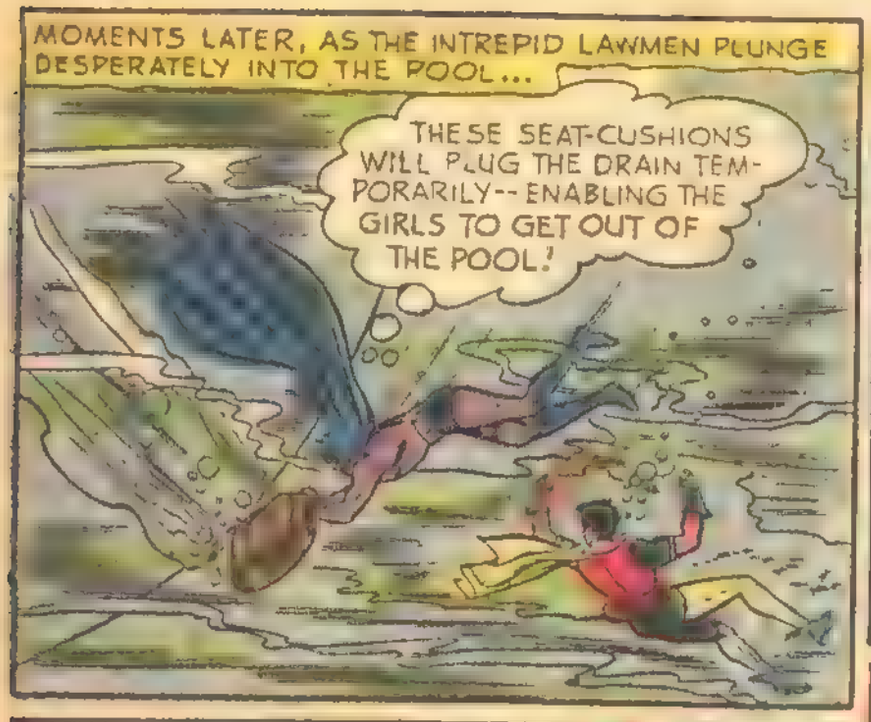
MOMENTS LATER, AS A SHRILL ALARM ECHOES THROUGH THE PRISON...
IT'S AWFUL! THEY GOT CHAMP AND THE BOYS COLD! MOWED 'EM RIGHT DOWN.'
THE GREAT CHAMP DEXTER! A BIG MAN.' I'M LUCKY I DIDN'T GO.' AND SOON I'LL SHOW THE REST OF THESE WISE GUYS HOW TO BREAK OUT OF THIS HOLE!
EEEEEEEEE
AND AS DAYS PASS...
HA-HA! I WANGLED THE JOB OF KEEPING THE WATER-TOWER IN REPAIR.' BUT IF THEY ONLY KNEW WHAT I WAS UP TO.'
THEN ONE DAY...
THIS IS IT! I'VE WEAKENED THE STAYS ENOUGH SO THAT THEY'LL GIVE IN THIS HIGH WIND AT ANY MOMENT.' AND THEN THIS TOWER WILL TOPPLE RIGHT OVER THE WALL!
ALL AT ONCE, AS THE GIANT STRUCTURE BUCKLES AND STARTS TO TOPPLE...
ANY OTHER TIME, A FALL LIKE THIS WOULD KILL ME! BUT NOW THE WATER WILL ACT AS A CUSHION--AND SPREAD THE SHOCK! I'LL BE OVER THE WALL--AND FREE!
SNAP!
AND THAT NIGHT, HIS ESCAPE A COMPLETE SUCCESS, TIM FLAGG PLANS A STRANGE AND CONFIDENT FUTURE.'
YES--A CRIME-REIGN--WITH WATER AS MY WEAPON! I'LL CALL MYSELF HYDRO--AND NO ONE WILL STOP ME! NOT EVEN BATMAN.' FOR I KNOW A WAY THAT EVEN BATMAN CAN BE BROUGHT TO HIS KNEES BY WATER.'
SCANT SECONDS LATER...
JUST AS I THOUGHT! HARDLY FELT IT! HA-HA! WATER-BOY, EH? I... SHOWED 'EM WHAT WATER KIN DO! AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING!

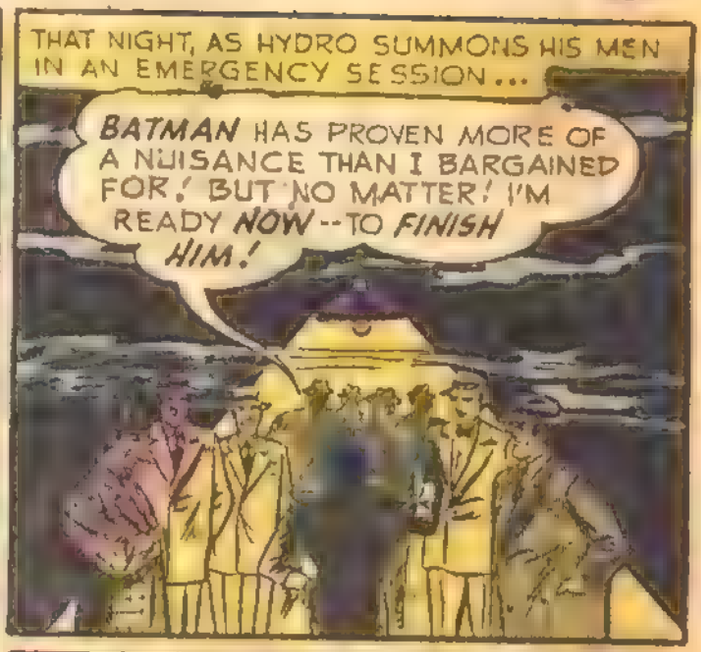
A FEW EVENINGS LATER, IN THE PRIVATE GYM WITHIN THE HOME OF SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON ...
NOTHING LIKE KEEPING IN CONDITION, DICK -- WHEN YOU LEAD THE KIND OF DOUBLE LIVES WE DO!
OH-OH! THE BAT-SIGNAL! OUR OTHER LIVES ARE STARTING RIGHT NOW! LET'S GO!
MOMENTS LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN THE BOY WONDER SWOOP DOWN UPON POLICE HEADQUARTERS...
HURRY, BATMAN! SOMEONE HAS TRIPPED THE BURGLAR ALARM AT THE NEW INTERNATIONAL BANK!
HE'S GOT HIS NERVE! THAT VAULT IS SUPPOSED TO BE FOOL-PROOF!
MEANWHILE, NEAR THE GIANT VAULT OF THE NEW SUPER-BANK...
NOW HYDRO WILL MAKE CRIMINAL HISTORY! HA-HA! WITH MY NEWLY ACQUIRED GANG COVERING FOR ME, THIS SHOULD BE A CINCH!
I'LL SHOW THEM WHAT WATER CAN DO! IN THIS CASE, HEAVY WATER -- THE SCIENTIFIC NAME FOR AN EXPLOSIVE ENOUGH TO BLOW HOLES EVEN INTO AS THICK A WALL AS THIS! HA-HA!
AT THAT VERY MOMENT, BATMAN AND ROBIN NEAR THE BANK! BUT SUDDENLY...
THERE THEY ARE! POUR IT ON 'EM, BOYS! HA-HA! THE BOSS SURE HAD A GOOD IDEA, WHEN HE THOUGHT OF THESE FIRE HOSES!
CAREFUL, ROBIN! WE CAN'T FORCE OUR WAY THROUGH THESE HEAVY STREAMS! A COUNTER-ATTACK IS CALLED FOR!
SWIFTLY, BATMAN PULLS HIS BATARANG FROM HIS UTILITY BELT AS ROBIN FOLLOWS SUIT! AND A MOMENT LATER, AS THE MISSILES FLY THROUGH THE AIR WITH DEADLY ACCURACY...
CLUNK!
RIGHT ON THE NOSE, ROBIN! THE BATARANGS HIT THE FAUCET VALVES AND CLOSED THEM MOST OF THE WAY! LET'S GO!
?
BOOM

THAT'S THAT! BUT I'M AFRAID THE DIVERSION WORKED! OUR BANK ROBBER HAS PROBABLY FLOWN THE COOP BY NOW!
AND INSIDE THE BANK...
WELL, AT LEAST HE WAS TOO HURRIED TO DO AN EFFECTIVE JOB! HE GOT AWAY WITH VERY LITTLE!
HEAVY WATER! HMM! WHAT WITH THOSE HOSES, LOOKS LIKE WATER WAS THE ORDER OF THE DAY AROUND HERE!
LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, AFTER A CONFESSION HAD BEEN OBTAINED FROM HYDRO'S CAPTURED HENCHMEN...
HYDRO, EH? AND HE DELIBERATELY USES WATER AS A WEAPON! WELL -WE RUN INTO SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY!
YES--AND LET'S HOPE THIS WATER CRIMINAL DOESN'T MAKE US SEEM ALL WET!
NEXT DAY, AT HYDRO'S GARISH HIDEOUT...
A KID'S PLASTIC SWIMMIN' POOL! WHAT IN THE WORLD'S THAT FOR, BOSS?
HA-HA! YOU'LL SEE! JUST ANOTHER USE OF WATER TO FURTHER MY CRIMINAL AMBITIONS!
LATE THAT AFTERNOON, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN CONTINUE THEIR INCESSANT PATROL GUARDING THE CITIZENRY OF GOTHAM CITY...
BATMAN! I JUST SPOTTED A FLASH OF YELLOW, DUCKING INTO ONE OF THE WINDOWS OF THAT APARTMENT HOUSE OVER THERE!
COULD BE HYDRO--COMING IN FROM THE FIRE ESCAPE! LET'S TAKE A LOOK!
MEANWHILE, IN THE APARTMENT OF WEALTHY STAMP COLLECTOR JAMES HOBBLES...
YOU CAN KEEP YOUR STAMPS, MR. HOBBLES. I HAVE MUCH MORE USE FOR YOUR MONEY AND JEWELRY! HA-HA!

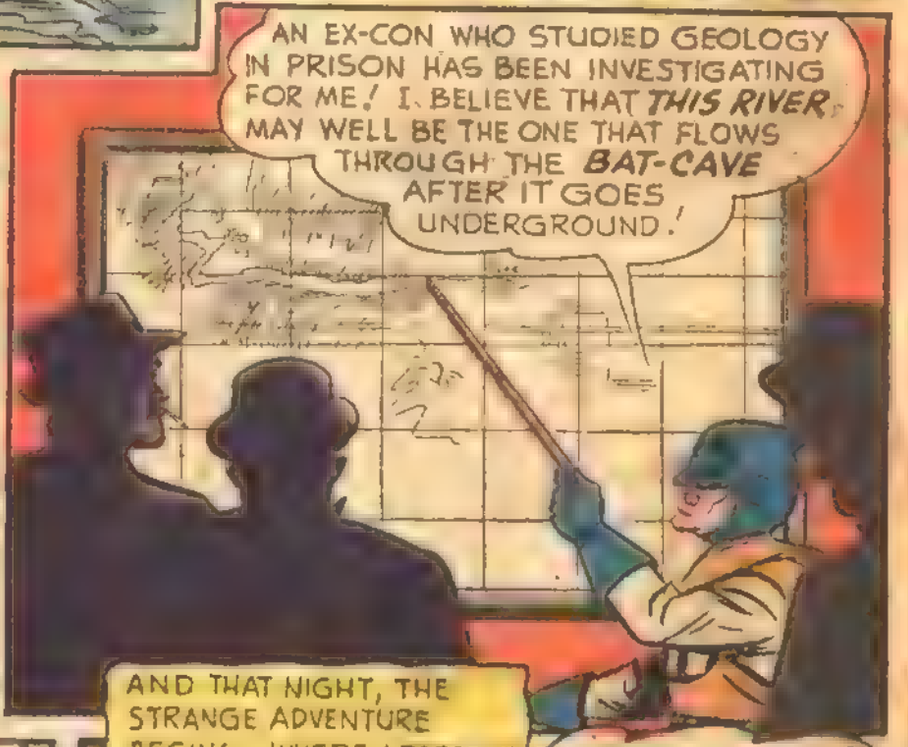
ALL AT ONCE! IT'S HYDRO! AND A ROBBERY! BUT YOU'VE BLUNDERED, HYDRO! THAT'S NOT THE FIRE-ESCAPE WINDOW! AND YOU'RE SEVEN STORIES UP!
SO I AM, BATMAN! BUT I'M GOING OUT ANYWAY! I'D PLANNED THIS, JUST IN CASE YOU SHOWED UP! HA-HA!
ABRUPTLY, THE WATER-CRIMINAL DIVES OUT THE WINDOW! AND AS BATMAN AND ROBIN RUSH OVER...
A CHILD'S SWIMMING POOL! IT'S THE OLD CIRCUS TRICK--OF DIVING INTO A SHALLOW TANK OF WATER! AND IT'S SURE A FAST METHOD OF ESCAPE!
THEN THE CHASE MUST BE JUST AS FAST! STAND BACK, ROBIN! I'M DIVING AFTER HIM!
A MOMENT LATER...
SO! BATMAN WOULD FOLLOW ME, EH? WELL--LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THERE'S NO WATER IN THIS POOL!
GREAT GRIEF! HE'S SLASHED THE PLASTIC! BATMAN'S DIVING INTO AN EMPTY POOL!
AND MOMENTS LATER...
I'M ALL RIGHT, ROBIN! JUST SHAKEN UP A LITTLE...
THANKS TO YOUR SPLENDID CONDITION! THAT WAS CLOSE! WITHOUT THAT AWNING TO BREAK YOUR FALL, YOU'D HAVE BEEN A GONER!
HE MANAGED TO ALTER HIS COURSE AND HIT THAT AWNING TO BREAK HIS FALL! I'VE GOT TO GET DOWN TO HIM RIGHT AWAY!
BUT BATMAN SPOTS THE DANGER! AND WITH ALL HIS VAUNTED MUSCULAR COORDINATION, HE SUDDENLY TWISTS LIKE A TRAINED HIGH-DIVER AS...
THAT NIGHT...
WHAT ABOUT BATMAN, HYDRO? YOU SAID YOU HAD A PLAN TO FIX HIM GOOD! YOU AIN'T AJMIN' TO DO IT WITH THAT WATER-PISTOL, ARE YA??
HA-HA! NO--NO! HAVE PATIENCE! I HAVE AN ASSISTANT WORKING ON THE PROJECT NOW! SOON I'LL BE ABLE TO MOVE AGAINST BATMAN!

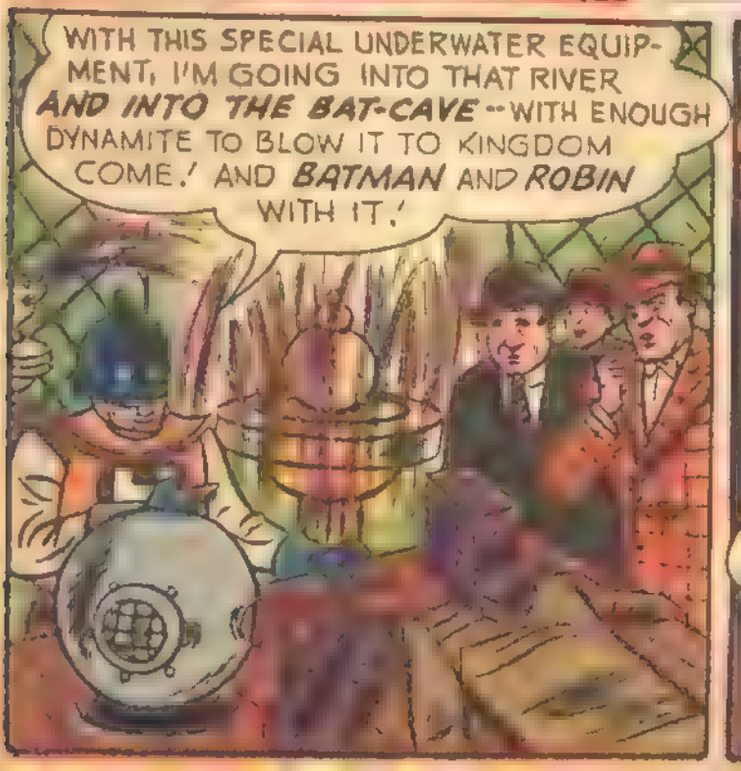
AND AS DAYS PASS, HYDRO WAGES HIS WATER WAR AGAINST ALL OF GOTHAM CITY.
IT'S HYDRO! HE'S GOING TO BLOW UP THE DAM! HE'LL FLOOD THE COUNTRY-SIDE--AND THEN LOOT IT AT WILL!
ROBIN! GET THE REMOVABLE FRONT SEAT OUT OF THE BATMOBILE! HURRY!
A MOMENT LATER...
I NEVER THOUGHT WE'D USE THIS SEAT-CUSHION AS A BOB-SLED--BUT IT'S ONE WAY OF GETTING DOWN TO THAT DYNAMITE IN TIME TO SNUFF OUT THE FUSE!
AND ON ANOTHER DAY...
HYDRO TRICKED US BY PUSHING THAT GIRL INTO THE RIVER! TO SAVE HER, WE HAD TO GET OUT ON THIS LOG--AND NOW LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENED TO US!
WE'RE COMING TO SUICIDE FALLS, ROBIN! WE'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOMETHING FAST!
THEN, A SPLIT-SECOND DECISION! STEEL-MUSCLED ARMS SPRING INTO ACTION--A LENGTH OF SILKEN CORD SNAKES OUT ACROSS THE WATER--AND THEN..
HOLD ON, ROBIN! I'LL PULL BOTH OF US ASHORE!
BOY--THAT WAS REAL ROPIN'! LASSOING THAT TREE WITH YOUR SILKEN CORD!
AND YET ANOTHER DAY, AT THE GOTHAM CITY WATER BALLET...
IT'S HYDRO! HE'S WRECKED THE DRAIN-VALVE ON THE POOL--THE WATER'S DRAINING OUT! THE SUCTION WILL DRAG THE GIRLS DOWN--THEY'LL DROWN!
A FINE WAY TO CREATE CONFUSION NEEDED FOR ROBBERY! QUICK, ROBIN--GRAB A SEAT CUSHION AND FOLLOW ME!

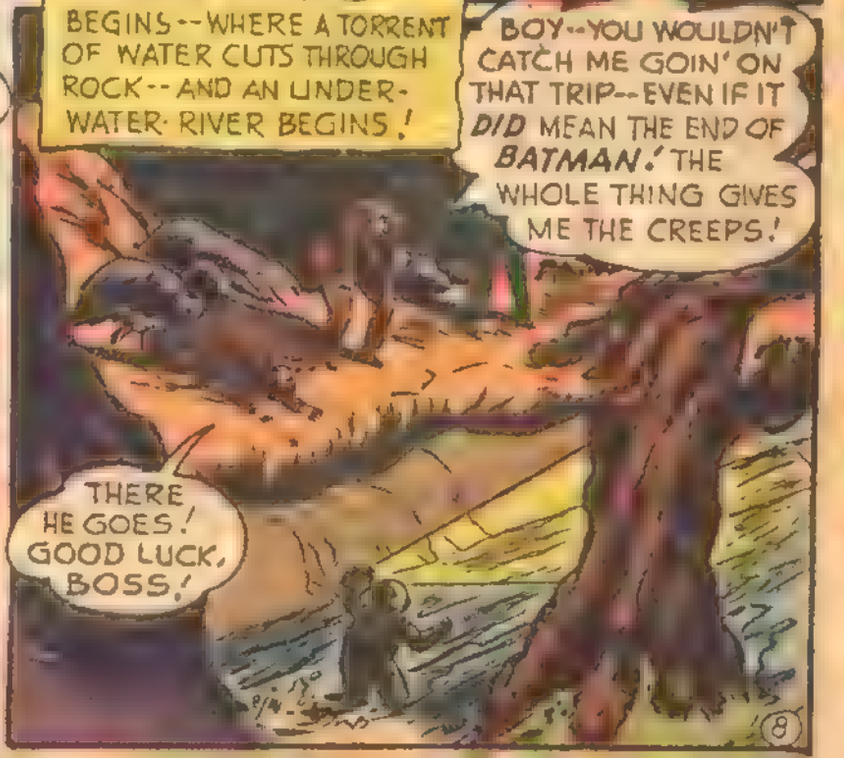

MOMENTS LATER, AS THE INTREPID LAWMEN PLUNGE DESPERATELY INTO THE POOL...
THESE SEAT-CUSHIONS WILL PLUG THE DRAIN TEMPORARILY--ENABLING THE GIRLS TO GET OUT OF THE POOL!


THAT NIGHT, AS HYDRO SUMMONS HIS MEN IN AN EMERGENCY SESSION...
BATMAN HAS PROVEN MORE OF A NUISANCE THAN I BARGAINED FOR! BUT NO MATTER! I'M READY NOW--TO FINISH HIM!

IT'S A MATTER OF RECORD THAT AN UNDERGROUND RIVER FLOWS THROUGH THE BAT-CAVE! VISITORS HAVE SEEN IT! THAT RIVER WILL BE BATMAN'S UNDOING!


AN EX-CON WHO STUDIED GEOLOGY IN PRISON HAS BEEN INVESTIGATING FOR ME! I BELIEVE THAT THIS RIVER MAY WELL BE THE ONE THAT FLOWS THROUGH THE BAT-CAVE AFTER IT GOES UNDERGROUND!


WITH THIS SPECIAL UNDERWATER EQUIPMENT, I'M GOING INTO THAT RIVER AND INTO THE BAT-CAVE--WITH ENOUGH DYNAMITE TO BLOW IT TO KINGDOM COME! AND BATMAN AND ROBIN WITH IT!


AND THAT NIGHT, THE STRANGE ADVENTURE BEGINS--WHERE A TORRENT OF WATER CUTS THROUGH ROCK--AND AN UNDERWATER RIVER BEGINS!
BOY--YOU WOULDN'T CATCH ME GOIN' ON THAT TRIP--EVEN IF IT DID MEAN THE END OF BATMAN! THE WHOLE THING GIVES ME THE CREEPS!
THERE HE GOES! GOOD LUCK, BOSS!

AND A HALF-HOUR LATER...

SO FAR--SO GOOD! MY OXYGEN SUPPLY IS HOLDING OUT! MUST BE CAREFUL WITH THIS CAN OF NITRO I'VE GOT UNDER MY DIVER'S SUIT!

BUT, AS TIME PASSES...

BUT SUPPOSING I'M WRONG! SUPPOSING THIS *ISN'T* THE RIVER? I COULD BE HEADED ANYWHERE--EVEN TO MY DOOM! THIS RIVER COULD GO UNDERGROUND FOREVER!

BUT THEN, EVEN AS COLD TERROR CLUTCHES AT THE HEART OF THE *WATER-CRIMINAL*...

THE BAT-CAVE! I'VE MADE IT! NOW TO GET MY EXPLOSIVE READY! HA-HA! WILL *BATMAN* BE SURPRISED!

BUT IN HIS EAGERNESS, HYDRO LETS THE CAN OF EXPLOSIVE SLIP--WITH DEVASTATING RESULTS...

BOOM BOOM CRASH

BATMAN! SOMEONE HAS COME IN THROUGH *THE RIVER!* AND *LOOK! THAT EXPLOSION* HAS *BLOCKED* THE *RIVER TUNNEL!* THE *BAT-CAVE* WILL BE *FLOODED!*

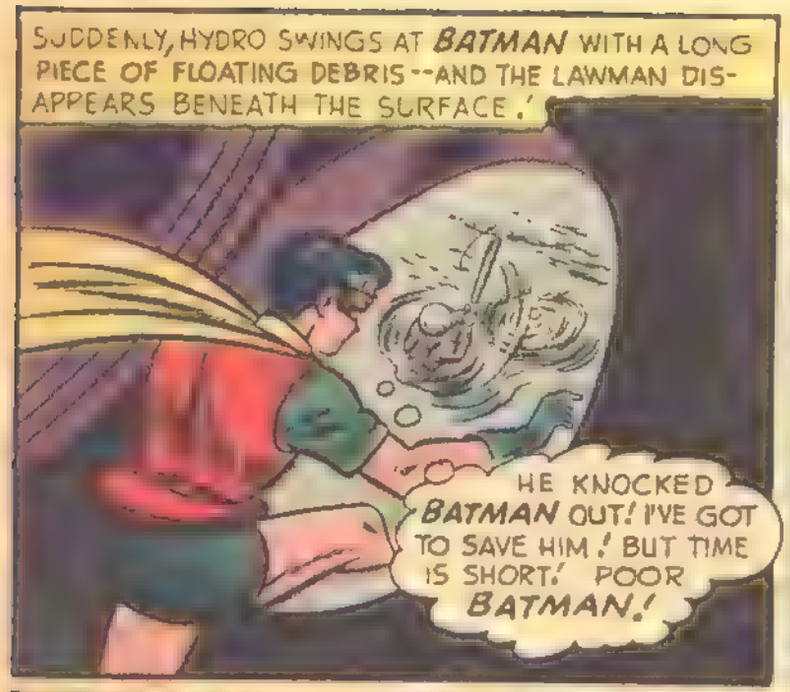
HORRORS! IT WENT OFF TOO SOON!

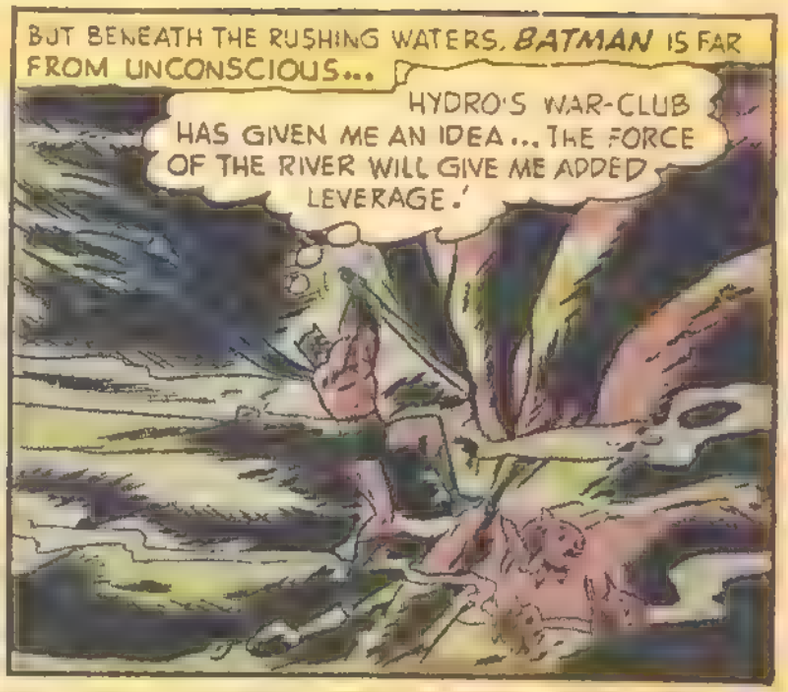
IT'S *HYDRO!* I'LL GET HIM, *ROBIN!* YOU DROP THE *EMERGENCY WALLS*--TO CONTAIN THE FLOOD IN THIS AREA! WE MUST PROTECT OUR *RECORDS* AND *EQUIPMENT* IF WE CAN!

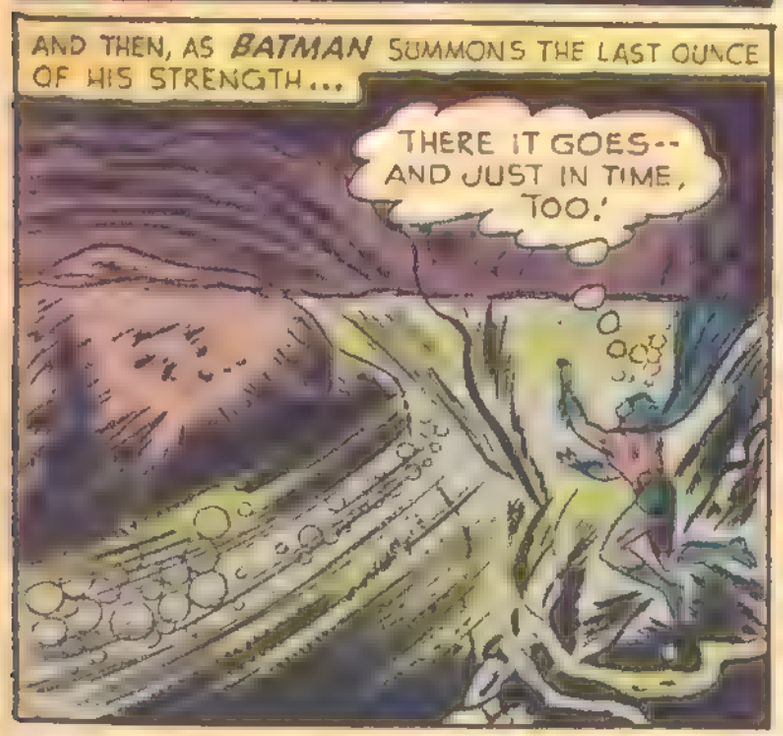
AND THEN, AS A WEIRD BATTLE THRASHES THE FLOOD-WATERS IN THE *BAT-CAVE*...

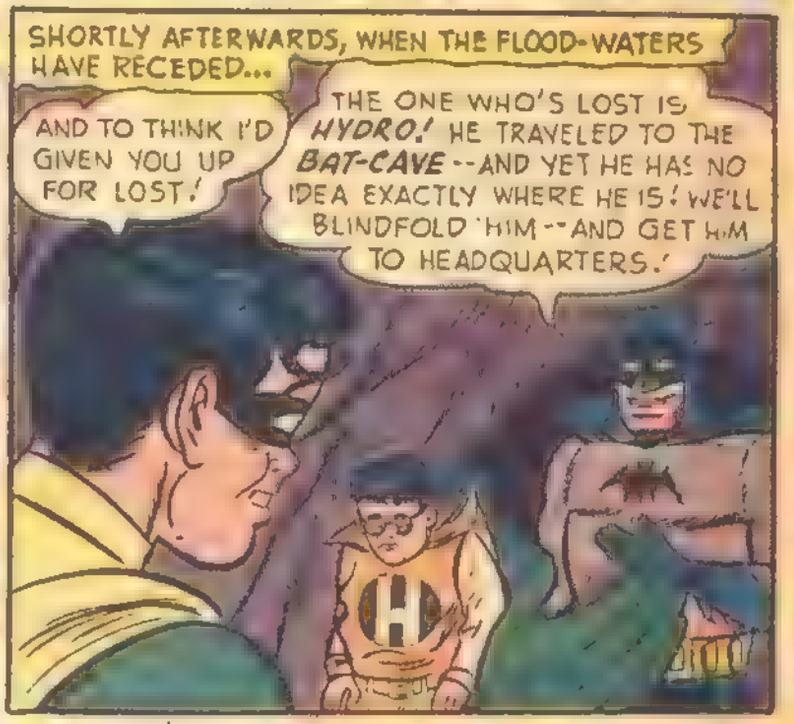
NEVER MIND HIM, *BATMAN*--COME OUT WHILE YOU CAN! THE WATER'S *RISING* TOO *RAPIDLY!* THESE WALLS WEREN'T MADE TO WITHSTAND SO MUCH PRESSURE!

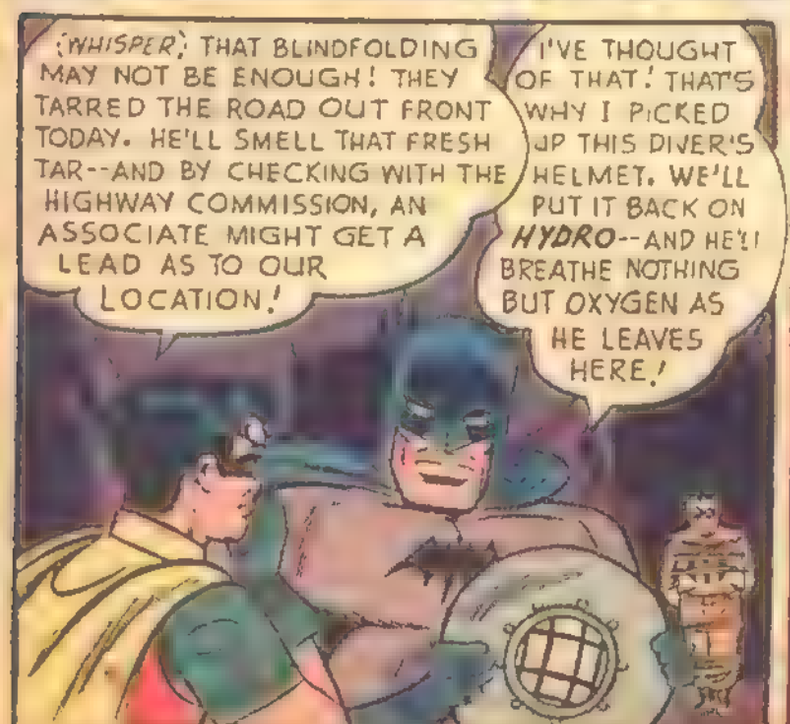
EVEN IF I HAVE ACCOMPLISHED NOTHING ELSE, I HAVE *DESTROYED THE BAT-CAVE! HA-HA!*

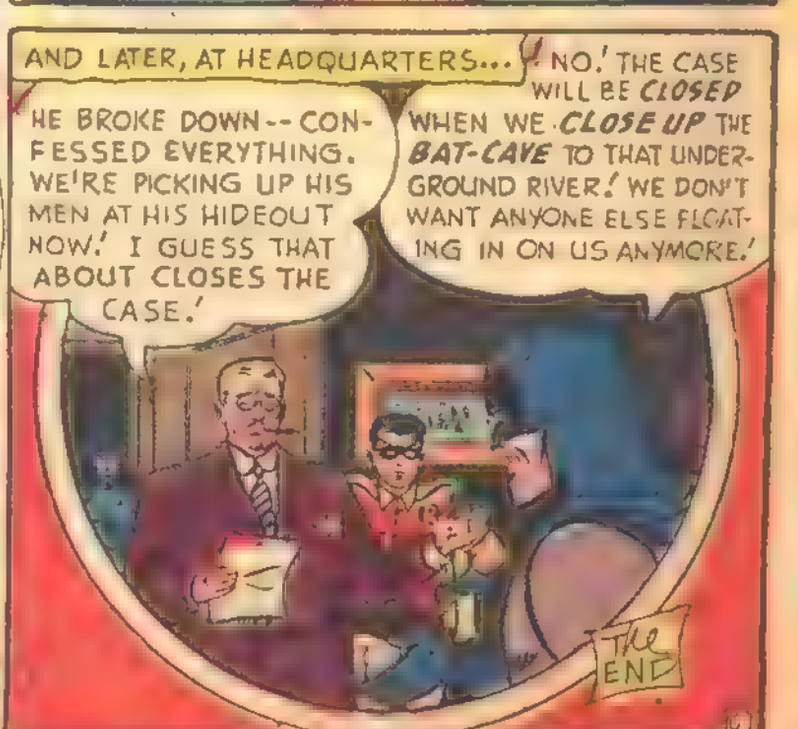

SUDDENLY, HYDRO SWINGS AT BATMAN WITH A LONG PIECE OF FLOATING DEBRIS--AND THE LAWMAN DISAPPEARS BENEATH THE SURFACE.'
HE KNOCKED BATMAN OUT! I'VE GOT TO SAVE HIM! BUT TIME IS SHORT! POOR BATMAN!


BUT BENEATH THE RUSHING WATERS, BATMAN IS FAR FROM UNCONSCIOUS...
HYDRO'S WAR-CLUB HAS GIVEN ME AN IDEA... THE FORCE OF THE RIVER WILL GIVE ME ADDED LEVERAGE.'


AND THEN, AS BATMAN SUMMONS THE LAST OUNCE OF HIS STRENGTH...
THERE IT GOES--AND JUST IN TIME, TOO.'


SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, WHEN THE FLOOD-WATERS HAVE RECEDED...
AND TO THINK I'D GIVEN YOU UP FOR LOST!'
THE ONE WHO'S LOST IS HYDRO! HE TRAVELED TO THE BAT-CAVE--AND YET HE HAS NO IDEA EXACTLY WHERE HE IS! WE'LL BLINDFOLD HIM--AND GET HIM TO HEADQUARTERS.'


(WHISPER) THAT BLINDFOLDING MAY NOT BE ENOUGH! THEY TARRED THE ROAD OUT FRONT TODAY. HE'LL SMELL THAT FRESH TAR--AND BY CHECKING WITH THE HIGHWAY COMMISSION, AN ASSOCIATE MIGHT GET A LEAD AS TO OUR LOCATION!
I'VE THOUGHT OF THAT! THAT'S WHY I PICKED UP THIS DIVER'S HELMET. WE'LL PUT IT BACK ON HYDRO--AND HE'LL BREATHE NOTHING BUT OXYGEN AS HE LEAVES HERE!


AND LATER, AT HEADQUARTERS...
HE BROKE DOWN--CONFESSED EVERYTHING. WE'RE PICKING UP HIS MEN AT HIS HIDEOUT NOW! I GUESS THAT ABOUT CLOSES THE CASE.'
NO! THE CASE WILL BE CLOSED WHEN WE CLOSE UP THE BAT-CAVE TO THAT UNDERGROUND RIVER! WE DON'T WANT ANYONE ELSE FLOATING IN ON US ANYMORE.'
THE END

NOW MORE THAN EVER-

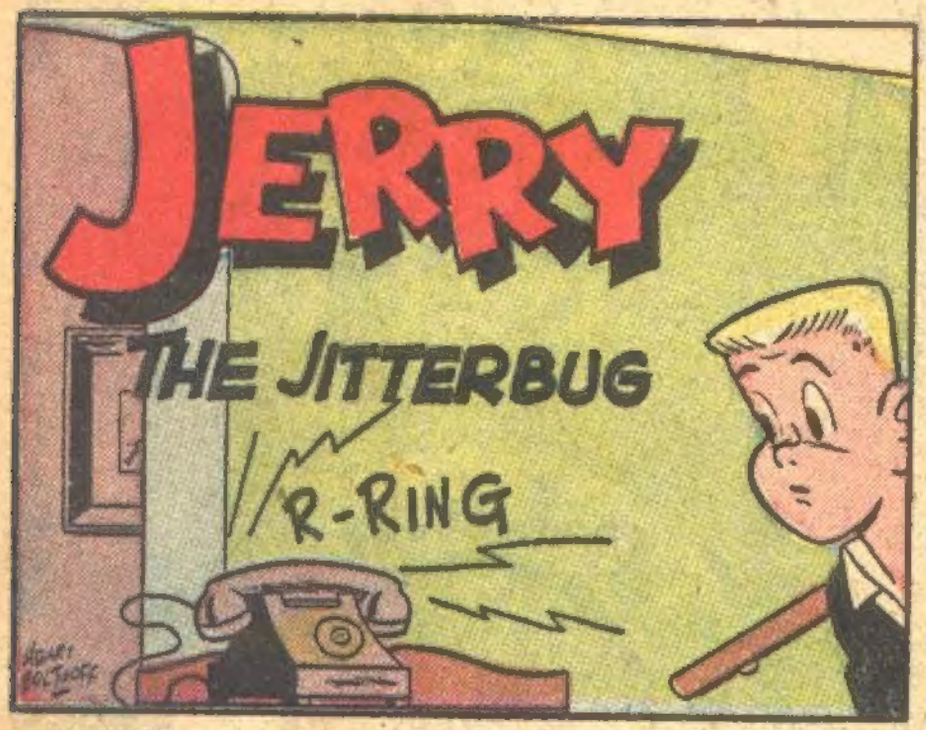
THIS FAMOUS SYMBOL

ON THE COVER OF *ANY* COMICS MAGAZINE IS *YOUR* GUARANTEE OF THE *BEST* IN COMICS READING

SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

YES, WITH SO MANY DIFFERENT TITLES ON THE NEWSSTANDS, SOMETIMES IT'S HARD TO CHOOSE A MAGAZINE YOU'RE *SURE* TO LIKE, BUT PEOPLE WHO KNOW COMICS BEST *KNOW* THAT THE D-C SYMBOL *ALWAYS* MEANS A *GOOD* MAGAZINE!

For Example, IF YOU LIKE MYSTERY STORIES, YOU'RE PRETTY SURE TO LIKE...


JERRY
THE JITTERBUG
R-RING

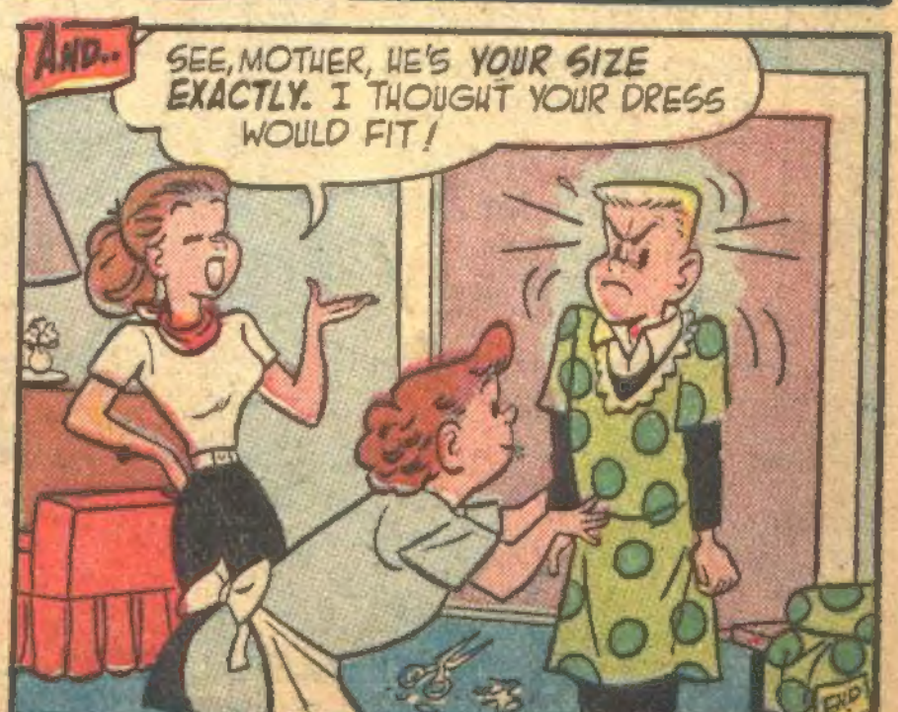
HELLO!
JERRY, THIS IS SUSAN. ARE YOU BUSY NOW? CAN YOU COME OVER?

I WAS JUST TELLING MOTHER ABOUT YOUR FIGURE. SHE WANTS TO SEE FOR HERSELF, YOU GREEK-GOD, YOU!

I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!

GOSH, I NEVER THOUGHT OF MYSELF AS A GREEK-GOD!

COME IN, JERRY!


AND..
SEE, MOTHER, HE'S YOUR SIZE EXACTLY. I THOUGHT YOUR DRESS WOULD FIT!
END

ANNOUNCING the new DAISY DEFENDER repeating AIR RIFLE

FIRST AND ONLY FORCE-FEED LEVER-ACTION DAISY IN 30 YEARS!

COMBINATION Open-end-Peep Sight ALSO Adjustable for Windage, Elevation

READY FOR CHRISTMAS!

Your Daisy Dealer wants you to drop in now and see this streamlined new Defender Repeater—most beautiful Daisy ever! It's packed with wonderful new features! Rear-sight lowers, lifts—moves right, left—adjusts instantly from notch-sight to peep-sight. Forced-feed 50-shot shooting barrel has Positive Action. Secret "pocket" in butt to carry Bull's Eye BBs. Realistic molded full oval stock and "hunting style" fore-piece. Perfect for fun and medal-winning NRA shooting. For help in getting Defender for Christmas, ask Dealer for FREE Daisy Reminder Kit or send coupon, unused 3c stamp!

No. 141 ONLY $7.98

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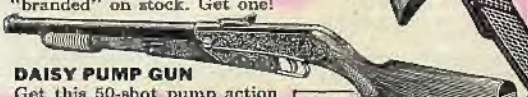
LICENSED BY STEPHEN SLESINGER, INC.

COWBOY CARBINE

Red Ryder Carbine holds nearly 1000 BBs—looks, feels, handles like real Western saddle gun. Leather thong on Carbine Ring. Realistic full oval molded stock and fore-end—both "checkered." Red Ryder's name, picture, horse "branded" on stock. Get one!

No. 111 $5.75



DAISY PUMP GUN

Get this 50-shot pump action repeater with "gold-engraved" jacket. Take-down model. King of All Air Rifles! See it at your Daisy Dealers' now!

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NO BB SPILLING with ROLL-TITE POUCH!
SHOOTERS! TRY THIS TRICK!
1 TEAR OFF CORNER
2 USE SOME BBs
3 ROLL TOP DOWN
4 HOLDS BBs SAFELY
AND DAISY'S ROLL-TITE POUCH OF BULLS EYE GIVES YOU MORE BB's for 5c

HANDY "SECRET" POCKET

ASK YOUR DEALER OR MAIL COUPON FOR FREE REMINDER KIT

FREE "CHRISTMAS DAISY" REMINDER KIT

See these beautiful Daisys at your favorite store today! Ask Dealer for FREE Daisy Christmas Reminder Kit or mail coupon enclosing unused 3c stamp! Kit will *remind* Dad, Mom or guardian to get you the Daisy you want for Christmas. It helped *thousands* get their Daisy last Christmas.

REMINDS THEM TO GET YOU A DAISY FOR CHRISTMAS

Do not order air rifles or BB shot direct—SEE YOUR DEALER! Prices subject to change without notice and higher Rockies, West, Canada.

DAISY BULLS EYE SHOT IS *approved* for use in

DAISY AIR RIFLES

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MAIL COUPON!

DAISY MANUFACTURING COMPANY
Dept. 1692, Plymouth, Michigan, U. S. A.

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CONTAINS ALL THESE FUN MAKERS

PAIR OF BIG EARS

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3 FAST SPINNING TOPS

ALL for ONLY 10¢ IN COIN and JUST ONE Cracker Jack LABEL

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It's fun to eat Cracker Jack, too. Every candy coated kernel of this famous popcorn confection tastes so good, the more you eat . . . the more you want. Remember, too, it's fun finding the surprise novelty that comes in every package. Be sure to get Cracker Jack today—then take the label off the box and send it with 10¢ in coin for your FUN PACK. Do it right away.

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